

New Soviet law bans strikes

MOSCOW (R) — The Soviet parliament passed a law Monday banning strikes in key industrial sectors of the economy by an overwhelming majority. After a long and complicated political debate, the first law passed by the Supreme Soviet since its formation in the summer, replaced a resolution it approved last week empowering the government to take unspecified emergency measures to keep the economy going. The vote was 373 to 12 in favour of the law. By banning strikes in key areas, the law at the same time formally defines the right to strike in the Soviet Union. Previous legislation had stated that the right to strike was a privilege granted to workers in the railways and other public transport, in civil aviation, communications, the energy sector and defence industries and anywhere likely to endanger life or public health. Industrial enterprises in permanent production such as heavy steelworks, where a stoppage could damage equipment, are also covered by the ban.



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King heads for Canada after talks in Rome

ROME (Agencies) — Their Majesties King Hussein and Queen Noor left Rome for Ottawa on a seven-day official visit to Canada at the invitation of Canada's Governor General Jeanne Sauvé. The King earlier met with Italian President Francesco Cossiga and discussed Middle East issues. The King briefed Cossiga on the latest developments of the Palestine cause, the Lebanese question, the situation between Iraq and Iran, and the efforts exerted to attain just solutions to these issues.

King Hussein also held talks with Italian Prime Minister Giulio Andreotti. Both leaders expressed satisfaction with the development of relations between the two countries and stressed their support for the efforts to be exerted to achieve a just and durable solution to the Palestine problem.

The King also apprised the Italian prime minister on Iraq's flexible position and sincere desire to reach a solution that pre-

serves the right of both Iraq and Iran. The King called on the two countries to resume direct negotiations and attain durable peace based on respect for sovereignty and non-interference in the affairs of each other. The King and Andreotti expressed full support for the Arab tripartite committee's endeavours to extricate Lebanon from its ordeal and restore peace.

The talks were attended on the Jordanian side by Prime Minister Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker, Royal Court Chief Mudar Badran and the King's Political Advisor Adnan Abu Odeh. The Italian foreign minister also attended the talks.

According to Italian officials, King Hussein voiced support for Egypt's efforts to bring Israelis and Palestinians together to discuss the Middle East peace process.

The King gave a "very positive evaluation" of Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak's proposals during talks with Prime Minister

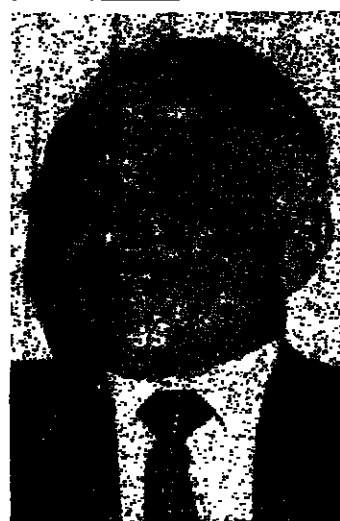
Andreotti, Italian officials said. The King told Andreotti he had been in contact with Mubarak before leaving Jordan, the officials said.

Mubarak has offered to host talks between Israel and Palestinians backed by the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO). Mubarak has laid out 10 points to bridge the gaps between the two sides. A split Israeli cabinet rejected Mubarak's proposals last Friday.

After Israel's rejection, U.S. Secretary of State James Baker spoke by telephone with the Egyptian and Israeli foreign ministers in a bid to keep Mubarak's proposals alive.

The King told Italy, which supports Mubarak's proposals, that the international community believed there could be no Middle East solution without direct Palestinian participation in talks.

He told Andreotti the PLO had gone as far as it could and it was up to Israel to end the stalemate, Italian officials said.



The King said that improvements in East-West relations would eventually produce results in the Middle East.

After a five-day visit to Canada, the King is expected to stop in London on his way home to meet British leaders and lecture on the Middle East at Oxford University.

Minister of Energy and Mineral Resources Hisham Khatib Monday left for Canada to join the Jordanian delegation accompanying King Hussein.

Uprising enters 23rd month with more blood

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Israeli troops opened fire Monday on Arabs who were marching with Palestinian flags in the West Bank Town of Nablus, killing one of the men, Arab reports said.

It was the second fatal shooting in as many days in Nablus, the West Bank's largest town, and occurred despite a army curfew imposed to confine the 120,000 residents to their homes.

Earlier Monday, three soldiers were injured when an assailant hurled a firebomb at their patrol in Nablus, the army said. One soldier suffered moderate wounds, and two light injuries, the army said.

Also Monday, a five-year-old Palestinian girl, Ulfat Nassar, was shot in the head when Israeli troops clashed with stone-throwing demonstrators in the Tulkarm refugee camp northwest of Nablus.

Doctors at Rafidia hospital in Nablus said the girl was in "extremely critical condition."

The violence came as Jews

marked "the day of atonement," with fasting and prayers.

Shops and businesses were closed in Arab Jerusalem and in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip to mark the start of the 23rd month of the Palestinian uprising against Israeli occupation.

The general strike was to continue Tuesday, the fourth and final day of a series of closures called by the underground leadership of the uprising in sympathy with residents of the town of Beit Sahour.

Israeli soldiers and tax collectors have been raiding shops and homes in Beit Sahour, near Bethlehem, for more than two weeks because of an Arab boycott of taxes. Residents say that more than \$50,000 worth of furniture and machinery has been confiscated.

The Israeli army said the incidents in Nablus began when soldiers encountered several masked Palestinian men in the town's central market Sunday night. An army spokesman, who cannot be

identified by name under military rules, said some of the Palestinians were armed with swords or knives.

He said troops opened fire when the Palestinians failed to respond to warning shouts and warning shots. The army spokesman said one Palestinian was killed and another wounded.

Reports identified the dead man as Ghassan Hudhud, 32.

After the shooting incident, residents were heard shouting Allahu Akbar from their homes and some people gathered on street corners, Arab reports said.

They said soldiers fired tear-gas canisters to disperse people.

The fire bomb was thrown at an army patrol at about 3 a.m. (0100 GMT) Monday. Witnesses said one soldier was seen running from the jeep with his uniform ablaze.

The army said one soldier

PLO blames U.S. for Israeli rejection of talks

TUNIS (Agencies) — Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) leaders blame the United States for the refusal of Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir to hold peace talks with Palestinians, the Palestinian news agency Wafa said Monday.

It said the PLO's Executive Committee and Fatah Central Committee Sunday decided that U.S. support for Israel's election plan for the occupied territories lay behind the Israeli refusal to hold direct peace talks as proposed by Egypt.

PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat chaired the meeting which included Nayef Hawatmeh, secretary-general of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine and representatives of George Habash's Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, the Arab Liberation Front, the Palestine Liberation Front of Abu Abbas and the Palestinian Communist Party.

Wafa said the meeting examined "Israel's position in the light of American sponsorship of the Shamir plan and its repercussions on the Palestinian question and the Middle East."

It said the Palestinian leadership had taken steps to deal with "the upsurge of Israeli repression in the occupied territories, notably the military encirclement of localities and the policy of starving people on the Gaza Strip."

Earlier, PLO officials said the PLO Central Council would meet in Baghdad Sunday to discuss the prospects of peace talks with Israel.

U.S. Secretary of State James Baker said Sunday he believed prospects for a Middle East peace initiative were alive despite Israel's rejection of the Egyptian proposal.

"I don't think that vote on Friday means things are dead in the water at all," Baker said in an interview on U.S. television.

He said he has held several telephone conversations with the Egyptian and Israeli foreign ministers since Friday.

Baker said he felt there was "still some chance" an elections proposal made by Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir would work.

He said the 10-point proposal by Mubarak "was actually an effort to move the elections proposal forward."

Baker said he has discussed specific language with Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Arens and Egyptian Foreign Minister Ahmed Fawzi Meguid to move the election proposal forward.

Jardaneh outlines outlook for economy and dinar, envisaged 1990 budget

Jordan gets \$317m loan to help balance of payments

By P.V. Vivekanand
Jordan Times Staff Writer

AMMAN — Jordan has secured concessionary long-term foreign loans from the World Bank, and the Japanese and West German governments totalling \$317 million to help the Kingdom in its balance of payments, Finance Minister Basel Jardaneh said Monday.

The World Bank will provide \$150 million, the Japanese government will extend an equal amount and the West German government will offer the remaining \$117 million, said Jardaneh, who returned home last week after talks with World Bank and International Monetary Fund (IMF) officials in Washington.

The loans will be repayable over 15 years with a seven-year grace period at "reasonable interest rates," he said.

Jardaneh, in an informal question-and-answer session with local and foreign journalists, also revealed that the government had made progress "in real terms" in curbing expenditure and that the deficit in the 1990 fiscal budget, which will be unveiled before the end of November, would be 16.5 per cent of the gross domestic product compared with 20.2 per cent this year and 24 per cent in 1988. These figures exclude Arab grants to Jordan.

Among the measures envisaged in the 1990 budget, the minister said, are:

A "reformed income tax structure" which aims at a revenue of JD 95 million compared with JD 55 million in 1989. Jardaneh stressed that the "reformed structure will benefit the poor."

A "generalised consumer tax" will be introduced at the production and customs points. The minister did not give any figures, but explained that value

added tax was not feasible in Jordan at this point in time because of the difficulties involved in monitoring it.

The ban on imports of many luxury items and automobiles imposed since November last year will be lifted as committed by the previous government, but higher customs tariffs would be introduced on such imports. "We are in favour of financial measures rather than administrative measures to curb imports," Jardaneh said. The expected outflow of foreign currency for these imports in 1989 after the ban is lifted will not be more than \$75 million, according to the minister.

A "substantial allocation" will be made for basic food subsidies. The minister declined to give figures, but a figure of JD 60 million is mentioned by economists. Jardaneh said while the government will continue to extend its indirect subsidies to the civil consumer corporations, it will also take 50 per cent of the profits of these establishments.

On other issues, the minister said: "Jordan's exports have grown in the first half of this year to cover 51 per cent of its imports for the same period compared with 37 per cent in the first half of last year. Imports for the same period in 1989 went down by 17 per cent, he added.

The minister said he expected Jordan's exports to reach \$1.2 billion this year, with phosphates, potash, fertilisers and aluminium fluoride accounting for \$620 million and agricultural products, pharmaceuticals and other consumer goods making up the rest.

"I am very very much satisfied with our financial relations with Iraq," he said in answer to a question on Iraqi repayment of its debts to Jordan.

With the scheduled \$317 million loan, and "modest Arab aid, even assuming the lowest, my judgement today is that the CBJ will have enough foreign reserves to intervene in the market when needed, and stabilise the rate of the Jordanian dinar... at more or less the current

Nyers to lead Socialist Party

BUDAPEST (R) — Veteran reformer Renzo Nyers, who led the Communist Party before it voted itself out of existence last weekend, was elected Monday as president of the new Western-style Hungarian Socialist Party, Hungarian radio said. Nyers, 66, received 1,065 votes from the 1,276 delegates attending a special party congress, the radio said. Nyers, Prime Minister Miklos Nemeth and Minister of State Laura Pocsogy belonged to a four-man presidium which led the Communist Party from June until the party ditched Marxist-Leninist dogmas Saturday. These moves were unprecedented for a ruling Eastern European Party. Nyers told reporters that the new party would have a 25-man leadership, including Nemeth, instead of the 21-member body originally agreed at the congress. The fourth member of the old presidium was Karoly Grosz, who voted against the creation of the new party and has said he will retire from national politics. Grosz replaced veteran leader János Kádár in May 1988 and unleashed the reforms now sweeping Hungary to multi-party democracy after four decades of communism. But reformers came to see him as a barrier to genuinely radical change.

'Petra Bank problems worse than expected'

AMMAN — Finance Minister Basel Jardaneh said Monday that investigations into Petra Bank affairs had uncovered problems worse than expected, but that the government was determined to meet all of the bank's obligations.

Jardaneh said inquiries into Petra Bank, Jordan's second biggest commercial bank, had shown at least \$68 million unaccounted for.

"What we have found till today is much worse than what we had envisaged," he said of the investigation.

Jardaneh told reporters Petra Bank "was borrowing from the Central Bank in Jordanian dinars and sending the money abroad to support its (operations) outside Jordan."

level, which is 690 fils to 625 fils to the dollar."

Discussing Jordan's external debts, the minister said he does not think the kingdom "will need any more rescheduling" of its debt repayments after implementing the five-year "readjustment programme" agreed with the IMF earlier this year. "I hope we won't have a debt hangover and will be able to repay our loans normally," he said.

Cost of living in Jordan, according to the minister, has registered an increase of only 13 per cent in the first seven months of this year when based on the income and spending habits of an average citizen earning JD 120 a month. "For me the cost of living has gone up by 50 per cent," he said, but "we are talking about a basket of consumption (of the average citizen who) spend two thirds of his income on housing, transportation and food. A look at the main items (in these three areas) there has not been any increase."

"But, if you are talking about someone whose monthly income is

His charges were the most specific yet levelled at the former management of Petra Bank since the Economic Security Committee took over the bank and ordered its merger with Jordan Gulf Bank in August.

The former chairman of the bank, Ahmad Chalaby, left the Kingdom under mysterious circumstances.

He said two Chalaby-owned businesses, Abbara Trading and Rimal Trading, had borrowed \$48 million from two now-liquidated Chalaby-owned Swiss banks, Mebro Geneva and Socofi.

Jardaneh said the funds "were removed from Jordan Petra Bank with instructions not recorded in Petra Bank Amman, instructions that were given by Chalaby alone... to give this money."

JD 1,000, then the cost of living is much more," he clarified. The minister expected a "very substantial increase in government revenues next year."

He did not disclose figures but said "it will be something shocking. When you see it (in the budget) you will believe it cannot be achieved, but I assure you it will be achieved."

Among the envisaged measures is a reform in income tax. "There will be a reform to the income tax system," he said. "People with low income or middle income will get more benefit. Those who can afford to pay will have to pay a little bit more. Some institutions, like say banks, will have to pay a minimum tax..."

At present, the corporate tax is 33 per cent and banks pay 35 per cent, but "they have so many exemptions they end up paying 15 per cent," the minister said. "Now they will have to pay a little more," he said.

"Let me assure you, those who cannot afford to pay more will benefit," he declared. "I shall be accountable for it."

Arab mediators make headway in Taif talks

TAIF (Agencies) — Arab League mediators struggled Monday to salvage a peace plan aimed at ending Lebanon's civil war and one of the Lebanese parliament members gathered here said they were making headway.

Veteran parliamentarian Saeb Salam, a Sunni Muslim, said the three-man Arab peace committee was seeking "to devise a mechanism that would guarantee" implementation of the peace plan.

Thirty-three Christian and 30 Muslim parliament members have been meeting in this Saudi resort since Sept. 30 in an attempt to hammer out a settlement to the 14-year war.

Hardline Christian deputies who owe allegiance to Maronite Catholic leader and army chief Michel Aoun have been demanding guarantees that Syria pull out its 40,000 troops from Lebanon before they will cooperate with the peace plan.

The demand has blocked resumption of formal Lebanese parliament sessions in Taif for four days as the committee of officials from Saudi Arabia, Morocco and Algeria sought help from Arab and other powers.

Among those involved were the United States, the Soviet Union and France, along with Iraq, which backs Aoun.

Salam, prime minister several times between the 1950s and 1970s, told a news conference: "The idea of failure has never occurred to me. Failure is forbidden, as the deputies are working hard to cooperate, understand each other and agree."

The debate is on a "charter for national reconciliation" prepared

by the Arab mediators as the basis for a permanent solution to the civil war.

The charter gives Syrian troops up to two years to redeploy in the east of the country and sets no deadline for them to pull out completely.

Salam said he accepted the idea of amending the charter.

Some Muslim deputies, arguing the charter has support from Syria, other Arab countries and the international community, advocate endorsing it in some form close to its present form.

Since full sessions ended last Thursday, the deputies have been waiting for the Arab mediators to wear down Aoun's opposition to the charter.

King Fahd of Saudi Arabia and his foreign minister, Prince Saud Al Faisal, have been in the forefront of these contacts, directly to Aoun and through Iraq and the major Western countries.

Salam said the contacts were going extremely well but gave no details.

He did not elaborate but said the deputies and the mediators were "doing everything to make the conference succeed."

The 87-year-old deputy, who lives in self-imposed exile in Geneva, declared tearfully that "I affirm to my brothers in Lebanon that success is inevitable and failure is forbidden."

He also said the conference was the "opening of a door long closed" to ending sectarianism, a bitter disease... that has grown out of proportion in these last years."

Muslim legislators grouped in

the Syrian-backed National Front have upped the ante on their demands for political reforms designed to give more power to the Muslims in Lebanon's hitherto Christian-dominated government.

They have said that if the Christians want the Syrians out within six months as they have been demanding, then the current system that parcels out government posts along sectarian lines should be abolished at a faster pace.

The peace plan lined up by the Arab mediators envisaged gradual abolishing of sectarianism as law and order were restored to Lebanon and the shattered government spread its authority anew.

Most of the Muslims, Echoing Syria's stance, insist there can be no withdrawal until the Maronites agree to surrender the power they have held since Lebanon's independence from France in 1943.

The Christian deputies approve these political reforms in principle but have been arguing in Taif over how to link them with the Syrian withdrawal timetable.

Salam said a working group of deputies was drafting amendments to parts of the charter which the members of parliament discussed in detail last week.

These include the balance of power between the Maronite Christian president and the Sunni Muslim prime minister, how to eliminate religion as a basis for political and civil service appointments and how to persuade Israel to pull out of South Lebanon.

Americans share Nobel Medicine Prize

STOCKHOLM (AP) — J. Michael Bishop and Harold E. Varmus of the United States won the Nobel Prize for Medicine Monday for their discovery of a family of genes that helps scientists understand how cancer develops.

Bishop, 53, and Varmus, 49, work together at the University of California School of Medicine in San Francisco, at the Department of Microbiology and Immunology.

"I was stunned," said Bishop, who lives in Belvedere, outside San Francisco.

Varmus said he was awakened by a radio interviewer who phoned him with the news. "I didn't know if it was a false alarm or they got my name confused, not having talked to anyone directly," he said from his home in San Francisco. "As we say in science, I needed confirmation of the information."

The 50-member Nobel

Assembly of the Karolinska Institute, Sweden's largest and oldest medical university, cited the researchers "for their discovery of the cellular origin of retroviral oncogenes."

In 1976, Bishop and Varmus "published the remarkable conclusion that the oncogene in the virus did not represent a true viral gene, but instead was a normal cellular gene," the citation said.

That is, cancer viruses cause cancer with the help of animal genes that have become incorporated into the viruses. The animal genes normally help control the regular growth of cells. But when the genes become part of viruses, they can trigger the uncontrolled cell growth that typifies cancer tumors.

Varmus called the research by him and Bishop a "cornerstone in understanding the genetic mosaic of cancer."

"The basic idea that we

helped establish is that cancer has its origins in genes that normally do us some good. But after they become abnormal through mutation, they cause a role in cancer," he said.

The discovery already has helped doctors diagnose and treat some kinds of cancer and has helped researchers understand how diseased cells change.

Oncogenic virus was discovered as early as 1916, although it was not known as such until nearly 50 years later.

"The great importance of the discovery is that we have a completely different view on how cancer can originate, and through that... it gives us a greater chance to attack the cancer at its root," said Peter Reichard, the chairman of the 50-member Nobel Assembly, which selected Bishop and Varmus.

"We now have the possibility to analyse the cause of cancer in

a much more precise way, because we now know that the cause of cancer is within ourselves," said Gosta Gahrton, a member of the Nobel Assembly.

Gahrton said drug companies were now looking for new ways to interfere with the oncogenes. The award given to Bishop and Varmus was the third time it had gone to tumor research.

The medicine prize was the first of four Nobel awards to be announced this week. The Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences will disclose the Economics Prize winner Wednesday, and the laureates for chemistry and physics Thursday.

The date for the Literature prize has not been announced. The Nobel Peace Prize was won last Thursday by the Dalai Lama, the exiled spiritual and political leader of Tibet, for his non-violent struggle against China's rule of his Himalayan country.

Dozens jailed for East German protests

BERLIN (AP) — East German authorities ordered dozens of people jailed up to six months for joining in pro-democracy demonstrations across the country over the weekend, West German television reported Monday.

East German officials, however, gave no reports of arrests or injuries during the demonstrations.

As many as 15,000 people, mostly young people, staged a sit-down strike in Dresden late Sunday, while thousands more demonstrated in other cities. Witnesses said police used clubs and dogs to break up some of the protests.

East Berlin began letting Western tourists back into the Communist capital Monday, after keeping them out since Thursday during the nation's 40th anniversary ceremonies, West Berlin officials said. Some West

Germans were still being kept out, they added.

The weekend protests in East Berlin were the biggest since a 1953 workers' uprising that was eventually put down by Soviet troops and tanks. In addition to the protests, East Germany's hardline leadership was embarrassed during the anniversary by the exodus of tens of thousands of its citizens to the West.

A leading East German opposition figure warned Monday in an interview with West Berlin's Rias Radio that violence could escalate.

"If the state does not send a clear signal soon and talk with the people about their wishes and needs, an escalation is possible," said Rainer Eppelmann, a Protestant clergyman in East Berlin.

"There is fear in the GDR (East Germany) that violence could soon reign."

East Germany again accused what it called the "gang of Western news reporters" for fomenting unrest. Several news photographers and television camera crews were told Sunday to leave immediately. Authorities also refused to renew the visas of dozens of Western journalists in East Berlin for the anniversary. The reporters were told to leave the city when their visas expired at midnight Sunday.

Maria Jacobi, a Lutheran Church worker, said in a telephone interview with a West Berlin radio station that between 10,000 and 15,000 demonstrators staged the sit-down strike in Dresden Sunday night.

She said police attacked some demonstrators during the protests near the main railroad station.

In East Berlin Sunday night, paramilitary troops and police with attack dogs forced demon-

strators into sidestreets as the protesters shouted "We want freedom" and "No violence." Residents held candles out their windows in support of the demonstrators.

Police seized between 30 and 100 people during the Sunday evening rally at Lutheran Gethsemane Church in East Berlin, according to Hessische Rundfunk radio in Frankfurt.

Several people were injured after security forces surrounded about 5,000 people who had gathered in or near the church and beat many with truncheons, according to witnesses.

Another estimated 2,000 people who tried to join the church vigil staged a sit-in on the nearby Schoenhanser Allee after authorities blocked them, witnesses said, adding that they, too, were beaten with truncheons and clubs.

Israel faces difficulty in drawing U.S. into Mideast peace role

TEL AVIV (R) — Israel's rejection of Egypt's invitation to talks with Palestinians will make it harder for the government to draw the United States into playing a leading role in Middle East peace efforts, political analysts said.

Washington hopes to keep alive a five-month-old Israeli plan for Palestinian elections in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip. But it seems determined to avoid a repeat of previous failures in the region, like its plan for an international peace conference.

"The U.S. wants motion but it does not want the stain of failure," Dore Gold, an American foreign-policy expert at the Jaffee Centre for Strategic Studies, said Saturday.

"I think the Egyptians were initially asked to play a more active role because the U.S. did not want to bear the political cost of trying to move a difficult process along," Gold added.

Israel's inner cabinet Friday rejected Cairo's offer to stage Israeli-Palestinian talks in a vote motivated as much by domestic

political rivalries as foreign-policy concerns.

Foreign Minister Moshe Arens, of Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's rightist Likud Party, which opposed the offer, said he pleaded with Labour coalition partners not to force a vote.

He urged Labour to wait for a letter in which U.S. Secretary of State James Baker would outline a proposal for U.S.-Israeli-Egyptian talks on the make-up of the Palestinian delegation, a compromise apparently acceptable to a majority in both parties.

But the document did not arrive raising scepticism among some cabinet members that Arens did not accurately report the contents of his meetings with Baker.

Some Israelis see the absence of the letter as a sign of Washington's reluctance to fully enter the Middle East diplomatic process.

"The Americans want to remain a broker, and they know that once they put things on paper, they are part of the process," said Itzhak Galanter, a political-science professor at Hebrew

University.

Israeli officials said Baker spoke to Arens several times by telephone at the weekend to probe ways of advancing Israel's election plan but they were still unsure when the Baker letter would arrive.

Washington, the Jewish state's closest ally, earlier this year encouraged a diplomatic initiative by Israel, which has been battling a 21-month-old Palestinian uprising in the occupied territories.

The Likud-led government approved in May a plan for elections to choose Palestinian negotiators for interim self-rule.

Egypt, the only Arab state to have made peace with Israel, offered to mediate when the plan appeared to founder but made it clear that the Palestine Liberation Organisation would be consulted in choosing the Palestinian delegates.

Arens said the key advantage of Baker's proposal was that it would give Israel a role in deciding which Palestinians would participate in the pre-election talks. Israel rules out direct or indirect talks with the PLO.



A woman looks at the ruins of a building hit during the artillery duels in Beirut

Lebanese deadlock reflects clash between fears, grievances

TAIF, Saudi Arabia (R) — A deadlock in talks on Lebanon's future reflects a longstanding clash between fears of Falangists that they may be overwhelmed by the Muslim majority and a Muslim sense of injustice at Falangist domination.

Sixty-two members of the Lebanese parliament, divided equally between Christians and Muslims, have been meeting in the quiet of the Saudi resort of Taif for nine days trying to work out a peace agreement to end 14 years of civil war.

But they have had to suspend their formal talks while Arab mediators attempt to persuade Maronite military leader Michel Aoun, sitting tight in his bomb-smashed bunker in east Beirut, to accept their blueprint for a stable Lebanon.

The dispute at Taif is over the linkage between demands by the opposition for reforms giving them more political clout and the insistence by Falangists that Syria's troops must go home first.

The deputies recognise that they are in reality playing out a battle dating back to the first years of independence, from France in the 1940s and probably earlier.

"Some say they came to Taif afraid and some say they came with grievances. We have to remove those fears and eliminate those grievances," Georges Saadeh, leader of the Falangist Lebanese Front, told a news conference Saturday.

Lebanon's Christian community, and especially the majority Maronites, a Catholic sect, are unusual in the Middle East in that they were cohesive enough historically to aspire to political power in an ocean of Muslims.

With the support of French colonial authorities, they carved the state of greater Lebanon out of the pre-World War I Ottoman province of Syria in the belief that they could hang on to the highest offices in the new state indefinitely.

An informal arrangement gave them 55 per cent of the seats in parliament and exclusive rights to the presidency, the command of the army and other key positions.

But a higher birth rate among Muslims and faster emigration by Christians, coupled with the awakening of Arab nationalist sentiments among Muslims, began to strain the system from the 1950s onwards.

"The old pre-war (1975) regime was a regime of privilege based on sect, in which the sects were not equal," leftist deputy Zahi Al Khafiz said Sunday.

Palestinian guerrillas who moved into Lebanon in force in the early 1970s found ready allies among the aggrieved opposition youth of the Falangist dominated state.

Right-wing Falangists, afraid of submerging into a sea of radicalism, launched a preemptive strike in 1975 and the civil war was on.

The key words at the Taif talks are reform and sovereignty, enshrined in the headings in the Arab League-sponsored "charter for national reconciliation." It is the interplay between the two which dominates the debate.

Reform means dismantling the system of Falangist domination and eventually eradicating religious affiliation as a factor in Lebanese politics.

Sovereignty, the more controversial of the two, reflects the different views which the two communities have of Syria, the powerful neighbour which controls Lebanon's land access to the Arab World.

"In Lebanon there's disagreement on the meaning of words, there's disagreement on the meaning of sovereignty, on everything," Georges Saadeh said.

For many in the opposition, Syria is a "sister Arab country" and, for reasons of history and geography, a special relationship with Damascus is natural and inevitable.

But most Falangists have come to see Syria as a rapacious and aggressive neighbour, occupying Lebanese territory illegally and scheming to annex the country when the time is right.

For them, sovereignty is absolute and it means the pullout of Syria's 33,000 troops, an end to Syria support for the opposition militias and the right to treat Damascus as an equal partner.

U.N. vote, Polisario splits seen behind Sahara fighting

RABAT (R) — Divisions among Polisario guerrillas and an imminent vote in the United Nations are the main reasons behind the biggest and fiercest battle in disputed Western Sahara for more than a year, diplomatic sources have said.

Morocco and its Polisario foes fighting for the independence of the former Spanish colony, administered by Morocco, both reported a major attack early Saturday on Moroccan defence lines near the Mauritanian border.

King Hassan immediately responded by saying he was calling off a planned second round of direct peace talks with the Algerian-backed guerrillas.

Diplomats in Rabat said they thought the king was manoeuvring to discredit the Polisario ahead of the annual U.N. General Assembly vote on the conflict.

They also said the Polisario was keen to show it was still a force in the region, despite an 18-month period which has seen the end of years of bitter rivalry between Libya, Algeria and Morocco.

Fast Western Sahara resolutions at the United Nations have called for direct negotiations between the belligerents before a U.N.-sponsored self-determination referendum. Spain ceded its colony to Morocco in 1976, but the subject of sovereignty was not addressed.

A Polisario communiqué, carried by the Algerian News Agency (APS), described Saturday's five-hour battle at the mountain oasis town of Guelta Zemmur as one of "murderous violence."

It said several Moroccans were killed or wounded and many were captured, but gave no further details.

A later despatch from the Moroccan News Agency MAP said 14 Moroccan soldiers, including one colonel, were killed and 31 wounded. MAP said 80 guerrillas were killed or wounded.

King Hassan received a Polisario delegation at his palace in Marrakesh last January for the first direct talks in 13 years of war, but has since adopted a wait-and-see game approach.

MAP reported earlier that the king agreed in September to a second meeting with the Polisario



King Hassan

during talks in Tripoli with Algerian President Chadli Benjedid and following a similar request from U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar.

The two leaders were in Tripoli to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the Sept. 1 revolution which brought Muammar Qadhafi to power in Libya.

Algeria, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco and Tunisia joined forces in February to set up the Arab Maghreb Union — intended as a North African equivalent of the European Community.

Many analysts said the accord spelled the end of Polisario as a military force as Algeria would be increasingly unlikely to risk allowing attacks on its neighbour Morocco to upset hard-won regional rapprochement.

In recent months, two senior Polisario figures have accepted an offer of clemency from King Hassan and returned to Morocco amid growing rumours of a rift within Polisario ranks.

Political analysts said hardliners opposed any settlement falling short of full-scale independence while a dovish wing was prepared to look at forms of limited autonomy or confederation.

They said many well-armed Polisario units had left base camps at Tindouf in south-western Algeria and drifted down to a

thin stretch of land between Moroccan-occupied Western Sahara and a poorly-defended Mauritanian border.

Morocco occupies four-fifths of the sparsely-populated territory which covers 265,000 square kilometres of some of the most inhospitable terrain in the world.

The last serious fighting took place in September, 1988, a few weeks before last year's U.N. vote on the conflict.

Diplomats said Moroccan-Algerian relations were unlikely to be damaged by the latest fighting as both countries were keenly aware that their long-term interests lay in entente.

Since signing the Arab Maghreb Union treaty which forbids any state from harbouring groups which attack another member, Algeria has been careful not to allow the Polisario to launch attacks directly from its territory.

Kabul lives in fear of random rockets

By Bill Tarrant
Reuters

KABUL — The crack of a rocket firing close by startled the group around the pool at the United Nations club, who followed the whine overhead and an explosion not far away.

"I've never heard one from beginning to end like that," said one newcomer to the club, social hub for the foreign community in the Afghan capital.

"It sounds like we're on the front line."

"Either that was a short round or the (Mujahedeen) are a lot closer than we thought," said one veteran foreign correspondent.

She meant either a government battery was short of target, or — unlikely — that Mujahedeen guerrillas had come down from the dusty hills that ring Kabul to launch rockets nearby.

Daily rocket hits, Kalashnikov rifles clattering in the night, an unending boom from government artillery, have created a climate of numbed fear in the capital.

A dozen rebel rockets a day,

on average, fall on the city of around two million people, government officials said.

The airport is a favourite target. So is Khairkhanna suburb, where the government has an ammunition depot, a missile battery and its main grain silo.

The rocket heard screaming over the U.N. club smashed into a shop in Kabul's main Pulishesti market, killing 20 people and wounding 45.

A trader shouted hysterically that his child had been killed. He had gone to pray in the mosque and left the child sleeping in the shop.

An older woman, told there was an American reporter at the scene, said to him in English: "Your government is very naughty, please tell them to stop killing us with rockets."

The United States and Pakistan are the main backers of the Mujahedeen guerrillas fighting President Najibullah's Soviet-backed Afghan government.

Minutes later a team from the United Nations good offices mission in Afghanistan and Pakistan arrived to take pictures and hear the Afghan government's version of the rocket attack.

"A government interpreter helps us interview witnesses. Do we get the true story? Who knows?" said one member.

The mission consists of 44 officers from 10 nations and a civilian staff. Their job is to supervise implementation of the Geneva accords, which paved the way for the Soviet troop withdrawal from Afghanistan. The last of the 110,000 Soviet soldiers left in February.

Monitoring the pullout was one of the mission's three tasks. It was also supposed to check whether Pakistan was interfering on behalf of the guerrillas and oversee the repatriation of five million Afghan refugees in Pakistan and Iran.

"People think we're U.N. observers here," one officer said. We're not. We're more like diplomats."

Their mandate ends on Nov. 15, with a two-month extension until Jan. 15 to wind up operations.

Team members spend six weeks in Afghanistan before going to Pakistan for a similar period to hear complaints from both sides of the border.

By mid-September the Kabul government had filed more than 800 complaints against Pakistan, mostly alleging that rockets hitting Kabul and other Afghan cities were supplied from Pakistan, Foreign Ministry officials said.

International relief workers estimate 40,000 people leave Kabul every month, mostly to escape rocket attacks which have intensified over the past three months.

Government spokesman Mohammad Amani said the rocket that hit Pulishesti market was an Egyptian-made Sakr-3, one of the latest weapons supplied to the Mujahedeen.

"They are not only aimed at causing destruction — physical, financial and human — but also aimed at creating panic to urge people to leave town and curb repatriation of refugees," Amani said.

Saker has a booster that fires just before impact to give the projectile more charge, accounting for the launch sound heard at the U.N. club, he said. His explanation, like other government accounts of the war, could not be confirmed.

MIDDLE EAST NEWS BRIEFS

Garang asks states to work for peace

DAR ES SALAAM (R) — Sudanese rebel leader John Garang said Monday he had asked southern Africa's frontline states to mediate in his country's six-year civil war. "I have asked them to make Khartoum see sense. I have asked them to approach Khartoum and present our views," he told Reuters after meeting Tanzanian President Ali Hassan Mwinyi. Garang, head of the Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA), earlier visited Botswana, Mozambique, Zambia and Zimbabwe. These four states, together with Tanzania and Angola, form the frontline states spearheading black Africa's opposition to white-ruled South Africa. Garang, fighting since 1983 to end what the SPLA regards as domination of mainly Christian and animist south Sudan by the Muslim Arab north, said the leaders of the five states he had visited supported an SPLA peace plan. The SPLA wants a new broad-based government, creation of a new army, a national conference to work out the country's future and general elections.

Denktash leaves for talks at U.N.

ISTANBUL (R) — Turkish Cypriot leader Rauf Denktash left for New York Monday for talks with U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar on stalled negotiations for the unification of Cyprus. "There is no crisis in Cyprus but a difficulty created by the Greek Cypriots. It will be removed when they agree to the conditions of a federation," Denktash told reporters at Istanbul airport before his departure. "I am going to New York with good will. But it will never turn Cyprus into a Greek Cypriot island," Denktash said. Denktash, leader of the breakaway "Turkish Republic of North Cyprus" since 1983, has just completed visits to Libya, Austria, Switzerland and West Germany to seek support for his demand for a federation with equal rights for both communities. U.N. sponsored unification talks between Denktash and Cypriot President George Vassiliou have been stalled since Denktash rejected in June a set of U.N. proposals and said direct talks must continue.

Kurdish refugee sets himself on fire

LONDON (AP) — A Kurdish refugee has died in a London hospital, three days after setting fire to himself upon being told he would be sent back to Turkey. Shih Yigwen, 26, and fellow Kurdish refugee Dogan Arslan, 23, set themselves alight at a detention centre near London's Heathrow Airport Thursday. Yigwen suffered burns over 60 per cent of his body, said Mount Vernon Hospital, where he died. Arslan was in Stoke Mandeville Hospital in critical condition. Refugee claimed he had been beaten by Muslim fundamentalists in his home village.

Moderate quake jolts Iranian city

NICOSIA (AP) — A moderate earthquake measuring 4.2 on the Richter Scale shook the Caspian Sea city of Rasht Sunday, Iran's Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA) said. No casualties or damage were reported. The agency, in a dispatch monitored in Cyprus, said the epicentre of the 5:43 p.m. (1413 GMT) quake was 135 miles (220 kilometres) northwest of Tehran. It provided no further details. It was the second quake reported in Iran this month. On Oct. 1, a quake measuring 5.1 on the Richter Scale caused landslides that destroyed 300 houses around the south-western city of Sisakht. No casualties were reported at the time. The Richter Scale is a gauge of the energy released by an earthquake, as measured by the ground motion recorded on a seismograph. A quake of magnitude 4 can cause moderate damage, while magnitude 5 can cause considerable damage.

Syria, Libya discuss cooperation

DAMASCUS (R) — A top Libyan envoy held talks in Damascus Sunday with Syrian Defence Minister Major-General Mustafa Tlas on ways to promote cooperation between the Syrian and Libyan armies, officials said. They said Major-General Hikmat Shihabi, chief of staff of the Syrian Armed Forces, was also present at Tlas's meeting with Major Khoudeh Hamidi, third in command in Libya's revolutionary leadership. Hamidi later delivered a message to President Hafez Al Assad from Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi dealing with developments in the Arab World. Officials gave no further details about the contents of the message but said Assad gave Hamidi a reply. Hamidi said on arrival in Damascus Saturday that he would discuss how to increase cooperation between Libya and Syria on "strategic action in all fields."

Paper calls for wider Lebanon peace talks

NICOSIA (R) — A Qatari newspaper Monday called for a conference of Lebanon's political and military leaders, saying parliamentarians now holding talks probably did not have enough power to bring about peace. "The deputies' meeting is but one step on the road to peace," Al Arab said. "It might not be enough if it is not complemented with more important measures, such as a conference that brings together the leaders of political factions and militias, who hold the decision on war and peace," the paper said. The legislators discussing political reforms and a proposed Syrian troop pullout in slow-moving talks in Taif, Saudi Arabia, have very limited authority, the paper said. King Fahd of Saudi Arabia, a member of an Arab League peace committee, has written to Lebanese military leader General Michel Aoun and his rival acting Prime Minister Selim Hoss, as well as other Arab leaders, to try to save the talks.

Oman seeks drums of toxic chemicals

MUSCAT (AP) — Air force helicopters and navy patrols on Sunday joined in an air and sea search for drums of a toxic chemical floating off Oman in the Arabian Sea. An environment ministry spokesman said 11 barrels of inflammable vinyl acetate monomer had so far been washed ashore on the coast of the Musandam peninsula. Oman's northernmost province separated from the rest of the sultanate by part of the United Arab Emirates. A large number of barrels containing the same chemical had already been reported off the UAE coast, the spokesman said.

JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel. 77111-19

PROGRAMME ONE

15:30 Koran
15:40 Programme review
15:45 Children programmes
17:05 Sci Hunt
18:00 News summary in Arabic
18:05 Local programme
19:10 Agricultural programme
19:45 Programme review
20:00 News in Arabic
21:30 Programme review
21:40 Local programme
22:30 News summary in Arabic

PROGRAMME TWO

18:00 Documentary
19:00 News in French
19:15 Aujourd'hui En Jordanie
19:30 News in Hebrew
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Paul Daniel's Magic Show
21:10 Supersense
22:00 News in English
22:20 Hunter

PRAYER TIMES

04:14 Fajr
05:31 Sunrise
11:23 Dhuhr
14:41 Asr
17:15 Maghreb
18:31 Isha

CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazareth Church, Swedish Tel. 810740.
Assemblies of God Church, Tel. 632785, 685326.
St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590.
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 637440.
De la Salle Church Tel. 661757.
Terzians Church Tel. 623666.
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 623641.
Anglican Church Tel. 625383, Tel. 628543.
Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 771531.
Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 775261.
St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751.
Assam International Church Tel. 685326.
Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel. 811285.
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Tel. 815817, 654932.

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

It will be relatively hot and winds will be light and variable becoming northeasterly moderate. In Aqaba, winds will be northerly moderate and seas calm.

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

Amman Min./max. temp.
Aqaba 17 / 32
Dead Sea 21 / 36
Jordan Valley 18 / 34
Jordan Valley 20 / 35

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 31, Aqaba 33. Humidity readings: Amman 27 per cent, Aqaba 33 per cent.

USEFUL TELEPHONE

NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN:
Dr. Ahmad Al Nasser 639394
Dr. Issa Haddad 870007
Dr. Wa'ed Dumail 748000
Dr. Hanna Mansour 740733
Pines pharmacy 661912
Pardons pharmacy 670055
Al Asena pharmacy 776336
Nabulsi pharmacy 623672
Al Salam pharmacy 636730
Yacoub pharmacy 644945
Shamsan pharmacy 637660

IBRD:
Dr. Issam Al Saleh (—)
Al Shamsa pharmacy (985238)

ZARQA:
Dr. Abdul Latif Sharabi (—)
Khalil pharmacy 985417

EMERGENCIES

Civil Defence Department 661111
Civil Defence Emergency 199
Rescue 630241
Jabal Amman Maternity 642362
Malbis, J. Amman 630140
Palestine, Shamsan 6641714
Shamsan Hospital 669131
University Hospital 845845
Al-Muhsen Hospital 6672719
The Islamic, Abadi 66612737
Al-Ahli, Abadi 6641646
Infanta, Al-Muhajirin 771013
Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh 77511126
Army, Marfa 89161115
Queen Alia Hospital 60224050
Amal Hospital 674155
ZARQA:
Zarqa Govt. Hospital (09)983323
Zarqa National Hospital (09)991071
Don Sima Hospital (09)986732
IBRD:
Princess Basma Hospital (02)275555
Greek Catholic Hospital (02)772775
Im Al Nafies Hospital (02)247100
AQABA:
Princess Haya Hospital (03)514111

Company 63681
RJ Flight Information 08-53200
Queen Alia Int. Airport 08-53200

HOSPITALS

AMMAN:
Hamidi Medical Centre 81381332
Khalil Maternity, J. Amn 642361/6
Jabal Amman Maternity 642362
Malbis, J. Amman 630140
Palestine, Shamsan 6641714
Shamsan Hospital 669131
University Hospital 845845
Al-Muhsen Hospital 6672719
The Islamic, Abadi 66612737
Al-Ahli, Abadi 6641646
Infanta, Al-Muhajirin 771013
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Im Al Nafies Hospital (02)247100
AQABA:
Princess Haya Hospital (03)514111

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (08)53200-5, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)

06:30 Singapore, Kuala Lumpur (RJ)
09:10 Damascus (RJ)
09:10 Jeddah (RJ)
09:15 Amman (RJ)
09:20 Cairo (RJ)
09:25 Moscow, Dubai (RJ)
09:35 Doha, Bahrain (RJ)
10:00 Abu Dhabi, Kuwait (RJ)
15:45 Montreal, New York (RJ)
18:35 Copenhagen, Frankfurt (RJ)
19:40 Belgrade, Bucharest (RJ)

Other Flights (Terminal 2)

10:20 Kuwait (KU)
12:30 Cairo (MS)

MARKET PRICES

Upper/lower price in fils per kg.

Apple (golden) 420 / 380
Apple (red) 350 / 300
Banana 400 / 350
Banana (Mukammal) 320 / 300
Beans 470 / 400
Cabbage 160 / 120
Carrot 320 / 280
Cauliflower 170 / 140
Cucumbers (large) 220 / 180
Cucumbers (small) 220 / 280
Dates 400 / 350
Eggplant 220 / 180
Garlic 900 / 800
Grapesfruit 220 / 180
Grapes 320 / 300
Grapes (black) 350 / 300
Guava 400 / 350
Lemon 200 / 160
Mallow 150 / 120
Maurow (large) 150 / 120
Maurow (small) 240 / 180
Olives 320 / 450
Onion (dry) 260 / 220
Pepper (hot) 160 / 120
Pepper (sweet) 170 / 130
Potatoes 320 / 280
Pumpkin 300 / 250
Spinach 250 / 200
Sweet Melon 300 / 250
Tomatoes 140 / 100
Water Melon 200 / 150

DEPARTURES

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)

07:00 Amman (RJ)
07:00 Tripoli (RJ)

ELECTIONS '89

By Nermeen Murad

THE SCENARIO is simple: A very enthusiastic election freak invites a large number of voters to his home to meet with the "ideal candidate." A date and a time is set. Voters arrive, but the candidate never shows up. The voters get very upset and unanimously agree that they will not vote for a candidate who cannot abide by the simplest rule of responsibility. So far one cannot complain. But the catch is that the enthusiastic freak is in fact working for a rival candidate and the "invited" candidate was never informed of the meeting.

A very well known candidate is faced with an incredible story of "malice." Apparently, another person in his family with whom he has had a long history of personal feuds carries the same first and last name and has decided to run in the same constituency. The idea is that people voting for the renowned candidate would only write the first and last name on the ballot card which would later create a dilemma as to whom the voter really cast his/her vote, and the ballot would be deemed null and void. A cheap shot.

Another widely used form of ruining rival candidate's chances for success is to spread a rumour that the candidate has made a brave decision to bow out of the race. Several candidates are now finding it necessary to advertise in newspapers that they are still in the race.

A candidate has been pursuing "official means" or "any law" to evoke the candidacy of competing candidates. Appreciation is in order for the officials who have turned out this gentleman and reiterated the government's position "not to interfere in the elections."

A human instrument whose main function is to discredit as many candidates as possible is running loose in open debates, closed debates and mini-meetings in candidates' homes. If you are a candidate look for this person in the frontseats.

On the other hand, candidates who are rich in thoughts and nationalism but are poor financially are finding supporters to help them along the way.

A wonderful elderly man bellows words of wisdom and idealism at every meeting with candidates. The "sheikh," as he became to be known claims that he is trying to revive a political party from the fifties. Investigations have shown us that his party enjoyed the membership of the "sheikh" and only the "sheikh," even in the fifties.

The campaign of a land-orientated candidate falls under the logo of "reconstructing the Jordanian family and creating man." The candidate says that politics will not be mentioned in the campaign because "political policies will not be made through parliament or any other establishment."

Many many candidates promise that they will support the agricultural products of the West Bank and will demand that West Bank produce be imported to Jordan. "If we do not have consumers for any particular product in Jordan then we should market it outside through Jordan; it is our duty," says a candidate representing a Jordanian tribe.

One candidate says that those who do not vote or "waste their votes are practicing the epitome of treason."

NATIONAL NEWS IN BRIEF

LAWZI RECEIVES ENVOYS: Upper House of Parliament Speaker Ahmad Al Lawzi Monday received separately United Arab Emirates Ambassador Abdallah Mohammad Al Shurafa and British Ambassador Anthony Reeve. The discussions dealt with bilateral relations in parliamentary fields. (Petra)

INNAB, FRENCH ENVOY HOLD TALKS: Minister of Industry and Trade Ziyad Innab Monday discussed with French Ambassador to Jordan Dennis Bouchard means to develop economic and trade relations. (Petra)

IZZEDDIN MEETS URUGUAY ENVOY: Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs and Acting Foreign Minister Ibrahim Izzeddin Monday discussed with the non-resident Ambassador of Uruguay means to develop bilateral relations in all fields. (Petra)

FORENSIC MEDICINE: Minister of Health and Social Development Dr. Zuhair Malhas Monday discussed with the director of the Iraqi Forensic Medicine Institute, Dr. Nadhir Al Dymi, cooperation in forensic medicine, exchange of expertise in this field, and standardisation of terms forensic doctors use. They also reviewed the role played by forensic medicine in the two countries in combating crime. Later, Dymi visited the Public Security Department's (PSD) Criminal Investigation Department as well as Drug and Forgery Control Department.

WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

EXHIBITIONS

- ★ An exhibition of watercolours on Jordan by Salim Kanaan at Al Wasit Art Gallery.
- ★ An exhibition of Islamic scripts at Jordan National Gallery for Fine Arts.
- ★ An exhibition marking the 1st centennial of the Eiffel Tower displaying photographs, drawings and pictures demonstrating the tower in all its aspects at the French Cultural Centre.
- ★ An art exhibition by Jordanian artist Omar Boual at Alia Art Gallery.
- ★ An art exhibition entitled "Multiples Regards" displaying lithographs of Picasso, Matisse, Miró, Braque, Cézanne and Le Corbusier, at the Royal Cultural Centre.

FILMS

- ★ A German film entitled "Der Kleine Staatsanwalt" (The Little Attorney), English subtitled, at the Goethe Institute — 8:30 p.m.
- ★ A film on Michael Jackson, Moonwalker, at the American Centre — 7:00 p.m.

Third charity march to be held on Nov. 17

AMMAN (J.T.) — Under the patronage of Her Majesty Queen Noor, the third charity march will be held Friday, Nov. 17, 1989, with the participation of members of the Royal Family as well as a large number of members of the diplomatic corps, national companies and institutions, universities, colleges, and schools.

The march will start from the Plaza Hotel and end at Al Hamraah Farm via Queen Alia International Airport highway, covering a distance of twenty-five kilometres.

UDD signs agreement with local company

AMMAN (Petra) — The Urban Development Department (UDD) Monday signed a JD 285,000 agreement with a local contracting company, whereby the company will construct 57 stores, parcelate 14 residential plots and carry out all the necessary sewerage and water networks, walls and construct pathways.

UDD Director Hishma Al Zagha said that the stores will be constructed in Um Nuwara and Marka (Nagab) housing estates, which form part of the second (UDD) project. The project is aimed at providing proper housing for the low-income categories.

Civil defence director leaves for China today

AMMAN (Petra) — Civil Defence Department Director and Chairman of the International Organisation for Civilian Protection (IOCP) executive council Lieutenant General Khaled Al Tarawneh will leave for China Tuesday at the invitation of the Chinese Ministry of Social Affairs.

In a statement to Jordan News Agency, Petra, Tarawneh said the visit is designed to discuss with Chinese officials China's request to join the Geneva-based IOCP and follow up China's achievements in the field of protection against disasters and rescue operations.

Noting that IOCP helps member countries develop their civil defence equipment and training programmes, Tarawneh said Jordan was entrusted with the duty of helping Mauritania and Sudan build civil defence systems capable of dealing with disasters and emergency conditions.

NAF gives JD 11,040 for income-generating projects

AMMAN (Petra) — The National Aid Fund provided JD 11,040 in September to 13 hardship cases, to enable them to set up their own income generating projects, thus bringing to 61 the number of self-help projects financed by the fund, since the beginning of this year.

Each eligible case receive a maximum of JD 3,000 to set up its own income generating business, depending on the findings of a comprehensive economic and social survey.

Thirty-five per cent of the sum is in the form of aid.

Badran tours schools

BANI KANANA (Petra) — Education Minister Adnan Badran Monday said that the school is the major element in the educational process and noted that the national educational development plan has called for spreading the pilot schools throughout the Kingdom.

Badran, who was speaking at a meeting attended by educational staff in Bani Kanana district, stressed that the educational development plan has focused on preparing good teachers and enrolling them in pre and in-service training courses to enable him to function effectively.

Contractors association president leaves for Cairo

By Ziad Al Shilleh
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Jordanian Contractors Association President Ali Abu Al Ragheb Monday left for Cairo to take part in the Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) higher committee for contractors meeting which begins Tuesday.

In a statement to the Arabic daily Al Ra'i, Abu Al Ragheb said that the committee will discuss the protocol of cooperation in the field of housing and reconstruction, prospects for setting up joint contracting companies and the higher committee's statute.

Also to be discussed at the meetings will be a number of subjects, including setting up joint contracting ventures with subsidiaries in each of the four ACC countries.

Abu Ragheb pointed out that a special committee for construction exports was formed in Jordan to draw up the necessary criteria for rehabilitating contractors to carry out contract work abroad.

The committee groups the Ministry of Public Works Secretary General, the deputy governor of the Central Bank of Jordan, director general of the Jordanian Banks Association and president of the Jordan Contractors Association.

Regent attends military exercises

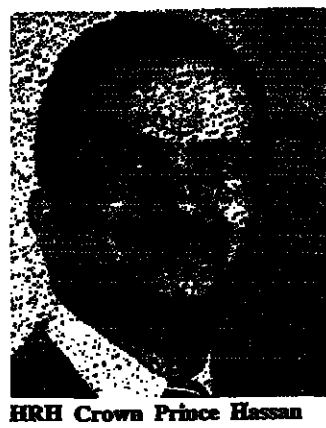
AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, Monday watched the military exercises carried out by a number of armed forces formations, as part of its annual training programme.

The exercises included shooting with live ammunition and air raids by fighters and helicopters which hit selected targets with precision.

At the end of the exercise, Prince Hassan toured the various training sites, where he met with participants and thanked them for their efforts.

Prince Hassan was accompanied by the Armed Forces Chief of Staff General Fathi Abu Taleb.

Watching the exercises were Their Royal Highnesses Prince Abdullah Ibn Al Hussein, Prince Faisal Ibn Al Hussein, assistants of the chief of staff, the Royal Jordanian Air Force commander, the Armed Forces inspector general, senior Armed Forces officers and military delegations from a number of Arab and friendly countries.



HRH Crown Prince Hassan

23rd Jordanian medical team leaves for Sudan

AMMAN (Petra) — Health and Social Development Minister Zuhair Malhas Monday stood in for His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, who is also chairman of the National Jordanian Committee for Solidarity with Sudan, in bidding farewell to the 23rd Jordanian medical team, which left for Sudan Monday.

The team includes 15 doctors, including surgeons, opticians and internists, in addition to a number of nurses and pharmacists.

In a statement to the Jordan News Agency, Petra, the committee Rapporteur, Abdul Salam Al Abbadi, said that the Jordanian medical committees are financed through two sources, the JD 700,000 contributions made by the Jordanian public and the external grants, including the \$2 million, donated by the Islamic

Development Bank (IDB) to finance the installation of two electricity grids and water system in Al Kas city, and to establish a telecommunication system between the civilian airports in the western parts of Sudan.

The Jordanian public's contributions were used to finance the costs of the Jordanian medical teams, cover the prices of drugs and medical supplies and to refurbish Al Kas Hospital, in addition to financing costs of the vaccines and providing in-kind assistance, Abbadi noted.

He pointed out that supplies needed for the electricity grids were bought from Jordan, after obtaining the agreement of the IDB, thus providing job opportunities for Jordanian companies and securing foreign currency.

Abbadi praised the efforts made by the Jordanian teams, saying "their success in discharging the duties assigned to them has encouraged the IDB and the Sudanese authorities to assign the Jordanian cadres to help carry out development projects, such as drilling water wells."

He added that the committee plans to carry out projects of interest to both Jordan and Sudan, including the setting up of agricultural projects in Sudan to meet the needs of Jordan and Sudan from maize, grain, wheat and meat.

Symposium ends with a call for setting up standard kindergartens

AMMAN (Petra) — Participants in a two-day symposium, entitled "The Kindergarten that we seek" ended their meetings late Sunday, with a call for setting up standard kindergartens where all requirements needed for child development can be met.

Participants stressed the importance of providing the necessary equipment to help ensure the physical, mental and psychological growth of children.

They also urged the Ministry of Education to speed up the general framework for the kindergarten programmes.

During the evening session, participants discussed a working paper presented by Salwa Madadha, head of the Ministry of Education's private schools and kindergarten section. The paper dealt with the various obstacles facing the kindergartens, including the legislative, social, technical and administrative difficulties.

The symposium, organised by the National Association for the Education of Children, was opened Saturday by Education Minister Adnan Badran, who deputised for Her Majesty Queen Noor.

Jordanian-Palestinian ties — the core and the evolution

By Nermeen Murad
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The two men have held important public posts in the government and dealt with the future of Jordanians on the local scene and abroad. A foreign minister and an interior minister presented and debated Sunday their assessments of the development of Jordanian-Palestinian relations and the effects of policies and measures on the Jordanian people in view of the bi-origins of the Kingdom's populations.

The debate, the first of its kind in Jordan dealt specifically with the psychological and social effects of the Palestinian problem, Palestinian refugees and later Jordanian citizens, and the leaderships (of the now two states), on the composition of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan.

A crowd of around 600 people filled a lecture room at Abdul Hamid Shoman Foundation to hear Sulaiman Arar, a former interior minister, and Taher Al Masri, a former foreign minister, discuss what is definitely a "very sensitive issue" to many citizens of Jordan.

Taher Al Masri

Masri, who opened his presentation by pointing to the sensitivity of the issue, said that his argument would "come from my heart." He divided the development of the Palestinian problem and its relationship with Jordan into four stages, beginning at the onset of the 20th century at around 1917 until today following Jordan's decision to sever administrative and legal ties with the West Bank.

Masri highlighted the Palestinian sense of insecurity and search for stability, which, he said, began with the Balfour Declaration in 1917. "When a series of forces and difficult situations affected a people who until now were living on their land and enjoying a high level of education."

The Balfour Declaration, according to Masri, "promised the land to another people and never specified any allocation for Palestinians. It only discussed 'minorities and others' while it mentioned Jews by name."

This brought about "a series of psychological interaction and in-

stability among Palestinians." Masri added that this declaration was followed by Jewish emigration into the land which resulted in conflicts and open clashes between Palestinians and Jews.

This first stage, according to Masri, ended in 1948 when a Jewish state was established in Palestine and "a whole population was removed from its land and thrown into refugee camps which did not offer the basic foundations for decent living." This again escalated the tension and the sense of instability among Palestinians.

Masri pointed out to the period between 1948 and 1967, when the West Bank was under Jordanian rule and "a sense of unity between the two banks was established and the Palestinians in Jordan began to feel safe and secure."

The third stage, between 1967 and 1974, was described by Masri as a stage of "mutual fear (Jordanian and Palestinian)." This stage, according to Masri, witnessed the involvement of the Palestinian national feeling which culminated in the Palestinians beginning to assume control of their destiny through the Rabat Arab summit resolutions.

From 1974 until the signing of the Camp David Accords in 1979 "there was a new stage in the relationship between the two nations which indicated a positive and correct route although there were remnants of tension."

Since 1974, Masri said, "there have been plans and efforts to find a form for the relationship between the two sides." The basic factor in this relationship is a common feeling and agreement that this is "a strategic relationship which cannot be separated in any real terms."

In his own experience as foreign minister of Jordan, Masri felt that "the Jordanian government was building its political philosophy on the basis that the Palestinians and the Jordanians are the most important elements in the Palestinian issue and if there was agreement between the two sides then there will be a chance for building an Arab agreement."

If this Arab agreement was reached, according to Masri, then the Arab World could go to the rest of the world and say, "we have agreed on something and we want an international peace conference."

The attempts to reach a final

vision of the relationship stumbled in 1983, but efforts continued until Jordan's decision to sever legal and administrative links with the West Bank, Masri said.

Masri concluded that the Jordanian-Palestinian relationship "is an eternal and integral relationship that cannot be separated regardless of the developments which would have to culminate in at least a confederation between the two sides after the liberation of the occupied lands."

Sulaiman Arar

Arar opened his presentation by asking whether he should discuss the historical and geographical relationship, the relationship in modern times, or the effects of the 1948 war or the relationship from the period of unity between the two banks in 1967 and until today.

He pointed out that the historical facts could not be ignored and that the first fact was that Greater Syria is a demographic, geographical and historical union. "At that time there were no regional sentiments and until the 20th century they did not exist. Everyone was from Greater Syria."

He blamed the European invasion for creating what he described as "different entities." Although the European occupation of parts of Greater Syria lasted for only 30 years, ending in 1948, "one could see some misunderstanding of Jordan and its role."

During this time, according to Arar, the Palestinian people fought great wars which also affected the Jordanians. "This is evident in the number of martyrs from Jordan."

After 1948, Arar said, people were looking for a saviour through political parties and several military coups took place in the Middle East.

The Nassarite Movement, which enjoyed great public support, contributed to the rift between the Palestinians and Jordanians since Abdul Nasser continuously attacked Arab leaders until the 1967 war when he recognised the need to reconcile with the reality of the Arab countries around him.

The 1967 war was followed by a period during which the Palesti-

nian struggle was taking a more organised and self-dependent form "and chose Jordan as a starting point for its struggle, and we in Jordan welcomed this move."

But the negative aspect of this contact between the Palestinians and Jordanians was "the large numbers of armed men in the cities and villages. There was contact and then a clash. Until things turned out the way they did."

The outcome of these factors, according to Arar, resulted in: — Growing regional Palestinian sentiments for the first time. The Palestinian people are Arabs who sing the achievements of Arabs and cannot be separated.

The leadership was unable to coordinate this Arab sentiment with the need to highlight the Palestinian identity as a necessary step to prevent diluting the Palestinian identity. The Palestinian leadership was also unaware of the Jordanian people's feelings and based its actions on the Egyptian media which were hostile to Jordan at that time.

— Jordanian sentiments grew calling for a Jordanian identity. This sentiment was not deep-rooted and did not apply practically when it came to inter-marriage and intercultural interaction. This feeling was used by the enemy by posing projects such as "an alternate land for Palestinians in Jordan."

But, according to Arar, "the dignity of the Jordanians and the awareness of the Palestinians were always able to quickly ignore these malicious foreign projects."

Arar explained that there were other factors which surfaced at that period which also contributed to a rift between Palestinians and Jordanians.

— According to Arar these factors included: — The Palestinian apathy in government jobs in Jordan which led to a growing number of Palestinians looking for jobs in the Gulf countries; consequently, the Palestinian presence in these jobs was low.

— The larger Jordanian presence in government jobs led to what Arar described as a feeling among Jordanians that "we are the sons of this land and we should have priority in public jobs."

According to a study conducted by Zacharia Mahadeen, a

researcher at Al Ra'i Arabic daily, out of 27 prime ministers in Jordan 12 were of Palestinian origin and seven out of 14 parliament speakers were also of Palestinian origin. In the period between 1921 and 1989, there were 322 ministers, 166 were East Jordanians while 140 were of Palestinian origin, and 16 were from other Arab origins.

The study shows that out of the 140 ministers of Palestinian origin 57 were from Jerusalem, 46 were from Nablus, 12 were from Ramallah, nine from Hebron, two from Tulkarem, one from Bethlehem and 14 from other cities in Palestine.

— The interests of the Jordanians and Palestinians differed. While Jordanians were looking to establish political parties and a Lower House of Parliament, Palestinians were primarily interested in the Palestinian issue and gave priority to this issue.

— Dual representation in conferences and seminars. According to Arar, situations have come about where a Jordanian delegation was represented by a Jordanian of Palestinian origin whose interest did not centre on Jordanian national interests. This representative, according to Arar, reflected a Palestinian opinion which was already represented within a Palestinian delegation attending the same conference or seminar, "which caused embarrassment among Jordanians."

Another contributing factor to the rift between the Jordanians and Palestinians, according to Arar, was that the Palestinian leadership was "haunted with fear that Jordan would take over its political role."

Two particular features, according to Arar, prevailed in the Palestinian leadership's relationship with Jordan:

— The doubt which the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) held for any Jordanian move.

— The inconsistency in the Jordanian official policies which are coordinated with the PLO.

Arar concluded by pointing to the most important six facts governing the Palestinian-Jordanian relations: — The Palestinian identity is a right which should be supported. — The Jordanian identity is there and has to be supported. — The Palestinian state is not a threat but a stage in the struggle

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The order of the day

IT IS most unfortunate that the Christian and Muslim Lebanese parliamentarians meeting in Taif are at loggerheads, with religion dividing them all the way across the line. There was some initial hope that the "old timers", who ruled Lebanon in the past and were able to achieve harmony and tolerance in Lebanon's golden era, would have their better sense prevail over the ongoing deliberations in Taif. Now it seems the old parliamentarians still want to retain the sectarian division that has torn Lebanon apart from one limb to the other. This is indeed sad and reckless. As His Majesty King Hussein has cautioned in his Saturday address to the nation, the worst thing that could happen to the Arab World is to succeed in portraying the Lebanese conflict as a religious war between the Muslims and Christians.

It must be noted in this context that the seeds of religious rivalries were sown in Lebanon many decades ago and date back to its independence. Having institutionalised the religion factor in Lebanon's political infrastructure right from the word go, it was inevitable that the Lebanese would end up being divided on religious and sectarian basis. Accordingly, there is a big lesson for the rest of the Arab countries in the Lebanese case history. To begin with, religious differences should never be allowed to take root and become institutionalised. Secondly, religious tolerance must be preached to the young ones in the Arab World lest they become blind fanatics who entertain only hate and ignorance against other religions. Must we remind ourselves that the bloodiest wars humanity had ever waged were religious ones? It is one thing to champion one's faith and quite another to be intolerant of others. As clearly stated in Islam, "you have your religion and I have mine." This suggests that one must be tolerant of other faiths with which he may disagree. In this vein it is incumbent on schools especially at the elementary level to nurture such a mature view of religious differences especially if Arabs whether Muslims or Christians seek to live together in harmony as fellow citizens. To what extent religious curricula in Jordan and other Arab countries reflect this aspiration is an open question that has yet to be answered. Otherwise, what has happened and is still happening in Lebanon could be repeated in other Arab countries. His Majesty King Hussein's admonitions against religious intolerance must therefore be the order of the day everywhere in the Arab World.



JORDAN PRESS EDITORIALS

JORDANIAN Arabic dailies commented Monday for the second running day on the contents of King Hussein's address to the nation in which he tackled the parliamentary elections due to take place in November.

Al Ra'i Arabic daily noted that the King has invited the Jordanian people, both voters and candidates in the coming elections, to join efforts to make democratic parliamentary rule a success in Jordan. Jordanian people enjoy a great deal of awareness and all have a sense of national belonging and therefore the coming elections are bound to reflect such attitude, the paper said. There can be no alternative to total commitment to the Jordanian constitution which serves as a basis for all democratic activities and processes conducted by the legislative authorities, the paper added. The King's call on the Jordanian citizens to exercise democracy and to take part in the coming elections, added Al Ra'i, is a call for total commitment to the constitution in which all citizens take pride.

A columnist in Al Ra'i daily discusses the rapprochement between Syria and the PLO in the light of the recent behind-the-scenes contacts. Mahmoud Rimawi says now that Syria is showing less involvement in the Lebanese crisis it has more time to return to the Arab-Israeli issue and can resume its political and pan-Arab activities. There is need for a healing of rifts between the two sides and the time is ripe for a resumption of fruitful and normal relationship which can benefit the whole Arab World, Rimawi adds. No-one can guess now the outcome of Syria's new policies towards Cairo and the PLO in the light of the recent development and Egypt's 10-point peace plan but one can see that a resumption of contacts between Damascus and the PLO leadership can pave the way for an improvement in relations, the writer notes. Indeed such rapprochement is essential now if a lasting settlement is to be found for both the Lebanese and Palestinian questions because both parties are important for the coming stage. Rimawi points out. He says that a minimum level of understanding on basic issues is a must and can boost the ongoing efforts to end all differences between Syria on the one hand and Iraq and Egypt on the other.

Al Dastour discussed the King's address to the nation in which he urged the voters and the candidates in the coming elections to shoulder responsibility towards their country. King Hussein referred to his speech to civil forces acting in the darkness and warned of conspiracies hatched by the enemies of the Arab Nation and directed against the national unity. He also referred to the events of the past two decades and dwelt in detail on the situation in Lebanon where the civil forces are trying to draw a wedge in the Arab ranks presenting the strife as a Christian Islamic struggle, the paper noted. The paper assailed those trying to exploit religion to attain their objectives and describing them as elements trying to harm the Arab position vis-a-vis Israel and its occupation of holy places.

New options open up in the German Question

By Dieter Schroder

THE comeback staged by the issue known as the "German Question" has come as a surprise mainly to the Germans themselves. Unlike neighbouring countries, which have remained mistrustful, they had imagined matters were more or less settled.

Since Willy Brandt's triumphant visit to Erfurt on 19 March 1970, Deutschland-politik has been based on two axioms:

- the existence of two German states as a cornerstone of the European peace system and
- the formula, coined by Herr Brandt's adviser Egon Bahr, of "change by rapprochement".

This policy was served by Herr Brandt's de facto recognition of East Germany, which was intended to mark the end of the loss of unity and of Cold War confrontation.

In return for this recognition, including acceptance of its social system, the East German authorities were expected to grant "human easements."

This policy went on to form the basis of the Helsinki process. It has, by and large, been a success.

Change may not have lived up to expectations in the German Democratic Republic (GDR). In a last show of strength the ageing GDR leaders have stemmed the tide and even reversed it.

Yet the degree of "human

easements," however unsatisfactory, was sufficient justification for the Christian Democrats to take over and continue a policy framed by a Social Democratic chancellor.

Even so, it is a policy that has been overtaken by its own success, as it were, a success that cannot be attributed solely to the policy of "small steps," or gradual progress, or to the ideal impetus provided by the Helsinki Final Act.

The crucial boost was given by Mikhail Gorbachev with his perestroika and abandonment of the Brezhnev Doctrine.

Were it not for these developments, the question, whether what is possible in Poland and Hungary might not be possible in the GDR too, would hardly arise.

The Helsinki process was beset from the outset by doubts whether the peoples of Eastern Europe would accept in the long term a fairly permeable but nonetheless clear commitment to Europe's post-war borders.

If trends in Eastern Europe are any guide, Helsinki was an improvement, but it didn't go far enough. Nations want more than easements, they want freedom.

The same goes for people in the GDR. Each and every easement triggers a desire for greater freedom of movement, political freedom and the right to a say in how one's life is run.

The refugees, Hungary's be-

haviour towards them and the East Berlin regime's stubborn reaction have boosted suspicions from several quarters that the Helsinki process has reached the end of a phase.

Nothing demonstrates this more clearly than the debate in the SPD about the Social Democrats' Deutschland-politik. The SPD finds it hard to part company with the Erfurt categories, yet it is well on the way towards doing so.

Willy Brandt himself has said so clearly. "The small steps policy has proved its worth, but developments are now progressing beyond it," he says.

What is more: "It will surely not be possible to separate for all time what belongs together."

Leading Social Democrats Horst Ehmke and Hans-Jochen Vogel have already gone further in the sense Herr Brandt meant by saying priority must be given to talks with the churches and with opposition groups in the GDR rather than to contacts with the ruling party.

The SPD has gone far beyond the joint paper it and the East German ruling party signed in calling for reforms in the GDR.

The German Question must inevitably recur in any such debate, especially when, as Herr Brandt's comments show, he for one is opposed to setting aside the right of self-determination.

Were we not to want to discuss it, our neighbours would force us to do so. They have never believed that the German Question was settled after the 1970 intra-German Erfurt summit.

They have always feared that Ostpolitik implied a desire for German unity, and they find it easier than we do to believe that the "unthinkable" which has happened in Hungary and Poland might happen in the GDR too.

If it did, the "German Question" would certainly return to the international agenda, especially as the end of socialism in the GDR would mark the end of the GDR's raison d'être. So there is no point in refusing to debate the issue, in sticking to old formulae or in replacing them by new ones such as the call for "Europeanisation" of the German Question.

What is needed is to realise where the priorities of a more far-reaching Deutschlandpolitik lie.

Reunification 1950s-style, an Anschluss of the GDR to the Federal Republic, can stay where it belongs, on the junkheap of history.

It stands no chance of coming about, not even in return for neutrality. "Europeanisation" in the only manner feasible, as part of a Europe where borders no longer matter, is an equally remote prospect. So we need not

worry about confederations and the like.

We must work on the basis of two facts: that the ruling party in the GDR might like to embark on reforms but is unable to do so and that the GDR too is a fact.

Its existence as a separate state is based on two factors: the guarantee of its existence by the international community and the acceptance of it by its own people.

No change need be expected on the first point. The balance of power is unlikely to swing so fundamentally in the foreseeable future as to make it possible to call the GDR's existence into question.

Yet the GDR equally clearly lacks a separate nation, and the more stubborn its leaders are, the more they will forfeit any claim it might have to legitimacy. We can't even help them by dispensing with our "obligation to take care of fellow-countrymen" and sending refugees back. The regime must come to terms with GDR citizens itself.

Its provocative rejection of the New Forum as seditious jeopardises stability by driving the opposition further away from the state. It is also a slap in the face for forces within the ruling party that might be prepared to embark on reforms. The party's hostility towards reform is most provoking; it prompts one to intervene

in the GDR's domestic affairs.

For the sake of people in the GDR ties with the regime must not be abandoned, but normal relations with Stalin's German heirs are hardly possible.

So the "change by distance," or detachment, from the GDR's ruling party called for by SPD Bundestag MP Norbert Gansel will be virtually inevitable.

Even so, it is hard to frame a policy that will mainly back the forces that are in favour of reform. Distance will be needed inasmuch as these forces must not be laid open to suspicions of collusion with "enemies of the state."

What shape can the new development, the priorities of Deutschlandpolitik, take? For one, the demand for the right of self-determination for people in the GDR must be kept permanently on the agenda. What becomes of it must, as Mr. Gorbachev says, be left for history to decide.

No-one need have any fears in this respect. The Germans will not be alone in deciding the outcome of the German Question, not even if a greater degree of freedom were to come about in the GDR.

But no-one, and least of all the ruling party in East Berlin, can stop the German Question from being more open now than it has been for the past 40 years — *Sueddeutsche Zeitung, Munich.*

Dr. Runcie and Britain's new Pharisees

HOW DOES BRITISH CHURCHES GRAB YOU, ARCHBISHOP?



DR. RUNCIE in some of the most forthright criticisms he has made of British society in the Thatcher era, has warned of a new breed of Pharisee motivated by greed and self-interest. He gives his views in an interview published in Director, the monthly magazine of the Institute of Directors.

"I believe of course in wealth creation — that's necessary if we are going to do all the things that we ought to be doing for our society in our privileged position in the world. It enables us also to give leadership in other parts of the world for good causes. But there is no automatic connection between wealth creation and a happy society," the Archbishop says.

"I resist the idea that the only driving dynamic of society is self-interest."

On the polarisation of a relatively prosperous south and centre and a poorer north, Dr Runcie comments: "The Church of England maintains its presence and ministry in every parish in the land. It continues to be in daily contact with those areas in which the Conservative Party has little support. This makes the Church sensitive to the needs of those areas and that section of the

population which has not benefited from the last 10 years of Conservative government."

He maintains that the popular press has exaggerated tensions between church and government but adds: "Of course there are some differences between us. The present government supports a view of society in which an individual's rights and duties are enhanced. That is part of the Christian ethic, but the Church always balances this with its understanding of Christians belonging to one another and making up the body of Christ. That gives us a corporate dimension to our faith and ethics, which is bound sometimes to be at variance with a highly individualistic approach."

"We are individuals but together we go to make up a community... and it is when we put our competitive demands before the needs of others that the structures of community life break up. The Church puts much of its energies and resources into building community life. It does so in its life of worship but also in its service, social and practical, to parishes, institutions and organisations throughout the country."

"One of the challenges sometimes presented to the churches — and particularly to the Church of England — comes from the section of our political and commercial leadership which says, 'We have made the people wealthy; it's the Church's job to make them good.' That is not the Church's view of its task. It wants to make people good. Godliness and goodness are not the same thing."

"Jesus reserved his most stringent criticism for the Pharisees. We tend to think that the Pharisees were unscrupulous, double-dealing, untrustworthy. That was not the case. Most of them led lives of exemplary moral rectitude. That did not cause them to escape the sharp edge of Jesus's tongue. He disliked their self-righteousness and their judgmental attitudes."

"Those are the real dangers in our society today... The successful are always tempted to regard their success as a sort of blessing or reward for righteousness. This can lead to judgments being made about the unsuccessful, the unemployed, the poor and unintelligent which are both uncharitable and untrue."

"I'm thinking of the sort of attitude that suggests that the unemployed do too little to help themselves, that if only they have determination and drive you can

get on in the world. Those attitudes lead people to be dismissive of the value of their fellow human beings. Those attitudes reduce human dignity. Those attitudes harden our hearts. They create barriers between us and God."

Dr Runcie says, "If you go into business you must aim for success, but success in business doesn't necessarily prove that you've made a success of life," he observes.

He acknowledges that Britain's economic performance had created greater prosperity in the country as a whole. "Now along with this, I would like to see more awareness that we are using this greater wealth more responsibly to deal with the left-behinds, to deal with the casualties of success, to deal with issues that can't simply be left to the wealth-tricking down — issues like housing, homelessness and the mentally handicapped."

Dr Runcie recognises that many of his contemporaries in the City share his view. "But I wonder whether, with the pressures and the push that are being demanded of the younger generation coming up — the man who's on top salary at 30 — they are going to have these sentiments."

He is clearly concerned about

the Church's relative lack of influence over this younger group. "The Church's strength is... in the parishes of England. Some-one once said of the Church that its centre is in the circumference. Many of the people I know who are in positions of significance in the country have done their stint as churchwardens in their parishes, and the weakening of those ties between Church and business success is something I watch carefully."

Later he says, "Experience has taught me that everyone needs to be needed. If a company does not feel deeply that it is performing a service, or if directors and others have no outlet for suppressed altruism, morale will suffer."

"These are days when the simple dictates of profit and self-interest are recognised as the dynamics of industrial success — but to regard these as the sole dynamics of society or an organisation is fatal."

"Self-interest" has been described as the necessary dynamic of a capitalist society, but that is all the more reason why it shouldn't be regarded as the overall dynamic."

Dr Runcie welcomes what he calls "the new atmosphere between local authorities and pri-

vate enterprise." But he believes this goes only part of the way towards meeting the needs of deprived areas. "It hardly touches on the problems of poor housing, lack of amenities, and continuing unemployment, particularly on some of the large housing estates."

"These problems are what lead to that sense of being left out, of isolation and despair, which in turn can lead to the symptoms we are familiar with — drug and alcohol abuse, crime and vandalism, debt and family break-up. It is very difficult for companies to have a direct impact in this area."

This is an edited extract from Dr Runcie's interview with the deputy editor of Director, Carol Kennedy, which appears in the October issue of the magazine.

Thinking about thinkers in space

By Flora Lewis

PARIS — When the mail brought a big package about the Search for Extra-Terrestrial Intelligence, or SETI, my knee-jerk reaction was that first we need to find more terrestrial intelligence.

But it's an interesting idea, particularly now that there seems to be a philosophy vacuum and a disenchantment with science for being so technical and materialistic, despite its awesome achievements.

The debate set off by Francis Fukuyama has reached Europe. He foresees "the end of history" and centuries of boredom because the great crusade against Communism is coming to an end and losing its capacity to mobilise emotions.

Neither the revival of religions nor nationalism is broad and stirring enough, in his view, to spur vitally hostile juices into thinkers around the world.

Of course, he stirred a good deal of ridicule. Yet he has highlighted a lack of focus in political thought now that most agree it is better to be practical than preachy. Freedom is only an exciting, galvanizing idea when you don't have it or you feel it threatened.

There is a felt human need for a sense of higher purpose beyond satisfying everyday wants, a goal that can be shared with other individuals and with the future. To my mind, there is no shortage in this cantankerous and destructive world. But the SETI people do offer another, possibly encouraging place to look, and they provoke reflections on those who fear they are running out of transcendent causes.

The SETI Institute is a California-based nonprofit research organisation. The work is funded by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration and various universities and academies.

It is headed by Frank D. Drake, an astronomer with a firm scientific background, and the projects are as rigorous as they come. "It has no connection with UFOs and other non-scientific nonsense; such things make us shudder," he writes.

Astronomers say that "ten billion potential life sites in the galaxy is a reasonable estimate." The distances make effective investigations impossible. But since the laws of physics are the same everywhere, if there is a civilization somewhere that has mastered electromagnetic communication, it is conceivable we could hear it.

The scientists suppose it would know, as we do, that a certain segment of the microwave band has the best chance of being detected.

So they want to search the skies for such a signal. The Pioneer-10 spacecraft, broadcasting from 2.8 billion miles away at the edge of the solar system with a power equal to one-20th of a candle, has been picked up.

Two types of search are under way, a broad survey that may not be sufficiently sensitive, and a more attentive sweep of some 800 star-type stars out to about 80 light years. There are other projects on the chemicals whose combination could produce life, and on an enzyme so basic that components of its molecular cells may be related to the hypothetical "urkaryote," the common ancestor of existing life.

Mr. Drake's argument is a display of quite modern earthling intelligence: that NASA should increase funds for SETI, now about \$1.5 million a year, so that it can use better equipment for an expanded experiment. There is a money side to every cause.

But he bases it on the belief that this could bring "an enlightened understanding of humanity's place and destiny in the

universe."

Scientific spin-offs can be expected in developing and using the technology, too, but the great, undeniably gripping question is whether we have fellow intelligent creatures somewhere out there.

If that is ever established, it would certainly change a lot of attitudes, and possibly bring

some good advice on dealing with our problems. Ronald Reagan joked with Mikhail Gorbachev that we would drop our arguments and get together on earth if we had to face a Martian invasion. It is so human to be xenophobic, to imagine that "the other" must be dangerous.

And it is human to think that intelligence elsewhere will have

gone through the same stages of decoding nature that we have and could use it to communicate, although perhaps not through the same physical evolution.

For some reason, we picture "them" as bug-eyed creatures with awkward-shaped heads — but still two arms, two legs, recognisable.

And it is essentially human to look for life, to find out if we are alone in the world, although having to admit we are not unique could bring the kind of letdown that Mr. Fukuyama seems to feel.

In any case, it's good to search and to think about our reasons for it. Intelligence is far from exhausting its capabilities. — *The New York Times.*

A change of name or ideology?

By Tony Barber

BUDAPEST — Opposition activists questioned on Sunday whether Hungary's ruling Communist Party had voted itself out of existence or merely changed its name to cling to power.

Delegates at a special congress voted overwhelmingly on Saturday to dump the old-style Communist theories espoused during more than 40 years in power. They agreed to create a Hungarian Socialist Party committed to Western-style multi-party democracy, civil liberties and a market-based economy.

It was the first time that a ruling Eastern European party had voted to abolish itself. It underlined the party's determination to regain public support as Hungary prepares for its first free national elections since 1947 early next year.

But leaders of Hungary's flourishing non-Communist opposition said party reformers such as Imre Pozsgay and Prime Minister Miklos Nemeth appeared to have been forced into a compromise by including most of the old party in the new.

"It is only the future which will say whether the reformists have won or if they have won only insofar as the name is con-

cerned," said Geza Jeszenszki, a founder of the largest opposition group, the Hungarian Democratic Forum.

He and other independent political activists said there was a danger that the new party, which plans to have local cells operating by November 10, would contain many hardline Communists disguised as Socialists.

"It has renamed itself a Socialist party, but I don't think it is the final farewell to the state-party character of the party. It was a solution acceptable to the party apparatus," said Ferenc Keszeg of the alliance of Free Democrats.

"How can a party be Socialist all of a sudden when it has so many Communists in it?" asked another activist of the same opposition group, which contains many of Hungary's leading dissidents of the 1970s.

In the first public reaction, some Hungarians said they cared little about the decision since they intended to vote next year for the opposition, whose candidates have defeated the Communists in four parliamentary by-elections since July.

Delegates spent Sunday debating the party's new policies. The leaders want an economy mixing market and state-run features as well as freedom of opinion within

the party rather than communist-style obedience to central directives.

Pozsgay said on Saturday: "Anyone can decide for himself whether or not he wants to belong to the party. The only exceptions are those whose hands are stained with blood or who were involved in corruption."

Pozsgay, Nemeth and other party radicals had said before the vote that they wanted to create a truly new organisation and were ready to split the Communist party if necessary to ditch conservatives and half-hearted reformers.

But the new party that emerged was so broad that even conservative ideologist Janos Berez, sacked from the ruling Politburo in April, felt able to support its creation though he had said earlier that he wanted to remain a Communist.

Mihaly Bihari, a liberal political scientist who was expelled from the Communist party last year, said before Saturday's vote that the new party would appear unconvincing to Hungarian voters if it dumped only the most extreme hardliners.

Karoly Grosz, the former Communist leader who launched Hungary's reforms last year but looked increasingly conservative, was among only 159 of the almost

1,300 delegates who opposed the new party's creation. Thirty-eight abstained.

But Grosz told the Roine Sunday newspaper *Il Messaggero*: "It's possible to have the Communist tradition side-by-side with the new demands of democratic socialism."

He said in an interview: "The past 40 years have left some concrete results. We've made great steps on collective ownership, which democratic Socialism certainly can't claim to have done."

He said Nyers' proposal was the best way forward — "a party with a strong element of democratic Socialism but which takes on board the Communist party's reforms."

Although the new party is abandoning basic tenets of the Communist faith such as the party's leading role in public life and the dictatorship of the proletariat, it describes itself as "a political organisation in the Marxist spirit."

Rezső Nyers, who became Communist Party leader in June and is expected to head the new party, was determined to avoid a serious split at the congress. He said the new organisation should draw some inspiration from Communist ideals.

Presenting a new Arab image

Anyone who has travelled to Europe and the United States and read the local papers there has noticed the lack of objective reporting on issues dealing with the Middle East. The inability to garner media support for issues important to Arabs is part of the reason for the lack of success in achieving Arab aspirations, be they a state for the Palestinians, arms purchases, or financial aid. The inaccurate image of Arabs and what they stand for, that is prevalent in the Western media, is partly due to the fact that the Arab World did not grasp the importance of the international media and to what extent it could affect issues that affect Arab lives. In this interview, Amir Taheri, a leading international journalist, proposes solutions that would improve the Arab image abroad and ways in which the Arabs could effectively present their side of the story in the international media. Amir Taheri, editor in chief of *Kayhan*, Iran's largest daily newspaper, between 1973 and 1979, has since worked for a variety of newspapers including *The Sunday Times*, the *International Herald Tribune* and *Jeune Afrique*. He has interviewed many of the world's leading statesmen and women and his articles have appeared in the *Washington Post*, the *Los Angeles Times*, and the *Guardian Weekly*, among other papers. He also writes in French and German and his articles have appeared in leading European papers, including *Le Monde* and *Die Welt*. In this interview he discusses Iran, problems of the press during the reign of the Shah, and future trends in the international media.

By Faiza S. Ambah

Q. You're one of the very few Middle Eastern, Muslim journalists who have been published in leading American and European newspapers. Why aren't more journalists like yourself writing for international papers?

A. The trouble these journalists have is not that they lack talent. They are talented, educated, and experienced. Their problem often lies elsewhere. They are not able to write what is on their minds and if you don't write freely and professionally then you cannot write for the major newspapers in the world. It's not possible for a journalist to write an honest article for *Le Monde* for example, and then go back home. I wouldn't have been able to write as I have if I planned to go back. The problem of the journalist is the stifling atmosphere and lack of liberty that exists in our society. I left because I couldn't work as a journalist anymore. Had I been able to continue working as a journalist, I would have stayed.

Q. How did your personal life change after the revolution?

A. I lost my work and my profession which I loved. The whole scenery changed. People became aggressive and unsure of themselves. An atmosphere of distrust, suspicion and rumour-mongering came into being.

Q. What do you see down the road for Iran?

A. Parliamentary elections in December would allow new groups to enter parliament. That would hopefully allow a majority to emerge. It's been eight years that the government has not been able to pass any major law, for lack of a majority. When a majority emerges, the government can decide policies and have parliament approve them. Then things will start rolling. Until now everything has been suspended, hanging in mid-air, but hopefully, by the end of the year, we will have an effective government.

Q. What would make you go back?

A. To be truthful, the government has not done anything against me personally. They have not withdrawn my passport, seized my assets, or blocked my bank account. It would be dishonest of me to say that I'm a victim of persecution; it's not true. I'm self-exiled. Theoretically, I could go back whenever I liked. But I

would only go back if I'm allowed to work as a free, professional journalist, neither for nor against any party.

Q. Were you able to do that before the revolution?

A. During the time of the Shah there was mainly a form of self-censorship. The government did not send anybody to our offices to read everything and approve it. In any case, the self-censorship we had during the time of the Shah was not the major problem we encountered: lack of access to information was.

When I was a journalist in Iran, the government was our major source of news since they controlled the economy, the oil revenues and they passed all the laws and made all the decisions.

We didn't have other sources of news; everything was in the hands of the government, but the government did not like news and did not like to divulge information. They were secretive and believed that the people were not intelligent enough to know or understand what they were doing. That was one of the reasons for the revolution. Most of the people didn't know how much progress the country had made. They didn't know that we had entered the 20th century.

Because of the government's frugality with information, the media always felt that they were not friends of the government. We did not feel that we were well treated as journalists. A journalist is treated well only when he or she is given information.

Another trouble was that the press was privately owned but the government wanted to use it. In another country for example, the press is owned by the government, so the government uses its own press, no problem, but in Iran, the government wanted the private press to do their work for them. We would tell them, "We are not your spokesperson. Your views have nothing to do with us. You have enough money, go and produce your own newspapers."

When they did produce their own papers nobody would buy them, this was the trouble, so they would come back to us and say, "Our Information Ministry doesn't work well, you have to act as our Information Ministry." So we were having this argument every hour of every day. We were not against the regime, we just wanted to do our job, and they did not understand that.

Q. When you wrote for international newspapers, did you encounter any prejudices because of your background?

A. No I didn't encounter any prejudices. I wrote for all those papers by invitation. Journalism is one of those professions where your work speaks for itself. If you are a close friend of an editor but you write poor copy, you're doomed: People will read what you write and you will be judged on that basis.

Q. You mentioned earlier that the sympathies of the Western press lie with Western peoples. Since there is no significant Middle Eastern voice in the international press how do you propose a balance?

A. There are a number of ways. We could launch an international English language newspaper, a "Middle Eastern Herald Tribune" for example. The *International Herald Tribune* covers the whole world but with the American point of view. We could cover international news but put forward the Middle Eastern point of view. This is one way doing it.

Another way is for a group of Middle Eastern Press companies to buy a major paper in the West; an English or American newspaper up for sale, and hire more Middle Eastern journalists, include more news about the Middle East, and use it to provide fair and accurate reporting.

A third way would be to help more Middle Eastern journalists get into major newspapers and act as correspondents or writers. We could also set up a good, professional Middle Eastern news agency, equivalent to AP or UPI, independent of any government, run on standards of high quality, and owned by independent newspapers. Actually, such a news agency would be well received because it would provide much sought-after news on the Middle East. One of the reasons the Middle East is not well covered is precisely because news in the form that international newspapers use is not readily available.

Another problem is that many Middle Eastern countries are not easily accessible, with the exception of Israel, which is a very small country but has over three thousand foreign correspondents. This is why you get more news detailed Tel Aviv than any other capital in the Middle East. We are partly to blame. You know, we discuss these problems a great deal at the International Press Institute. I'm a member of the executive board of the IPI which is the most important association of newspaper editors; its 2,400 members are the editors of the major newspapers in the world, and we are concerned about this problem. Most of the members represent Western papers of course, but we have members from Egypt, Sudan and Kuwait, and we welcome the idea of having members from other countries.

Again, at the IPI, we've found that one of the reasons the Arab World is not receiving adequate or proper coverage in the news is that many countries in the Middle East are beyond access. It is easy to blame the international press but we must shoulder our part of the responsibility. You know, we are maximalists in the Middle East. We think if we can't do everything it's not worth doing anything, but we must become minimalists, everyone must do what they can, every little bit

helps. We should also have a more realistic view of change; change is often slow.

Q. Many parts of the occupied Arab territories are beyond access to journalists.

A. Anybody can go to the occupied territories. I was there myself last year and I wrote a book about the intifada called *The Cauldron*. There are a lot of limitations for television crews, but when you are there, you can go around them. In Israel there is censorship when sending news and pictures outside the country because they read everything before you send it, but that isn't too much of a problem because you can write your articles once you're out of the country. The important thing is to be there, on the spot, and that's not prohibited.

There are some parts of the occupied territories which are outside Israeli control altogether. They are controlled by the people of the intifada who don't allow even Israelis to go there. The journalists who want to go there must have the authority of the intifada leaders, which is a complicated process. These are liberated zones that the Israelis don't want publicized.

Q. I've found that it's very rare, in the international press, to find articles about the Palestinian problem that are unbiased.

A. There are only a few articles that are fair because only a few of the people who write them are well-informed about the issues. International newspapers welcome my articles because they know that I'm familiar with the problem and that I've been to Israel and to the occupied territories. I've talked to the Palestinians but I've also talked to both Israeli leaders; Shamir and Peres. Getting both sides of the story is part of my job as a conscientious journalist.

Q. Most articles don't give both sides.

A. Yes. Many times, those who have written the articles have an axe to grind or they bring their own biases to the story. I believe the Palestinians don't need their story to be presented with a pro-Palestinian bias because justice is on their side. We don't need to do propaganda for them, we just have to present the facts and write the truth. When you speak to someone in Tulkarm or Hebron, for example, and they tell you, "They say our lives under Israeli rule have become a paradise but we don't want to live under Israeli rule in paradise. We prefer to live in hell, if need be, but under our own government," you don't need to add anything to a statement like that, it speaks for itself.

Western journalists have their own prejudices, interests, and world view so it is very difficult for them to see the other side of the story. Another problem is the language barrier. I don't speak Arabic but I understand it. When an Arab from the West Bank speaks to me, I get the feel, tone, and the sincerity behind his or her words. That insight into the feelings of the Arabs is inaccessible to the Western journalist because of the language and cultural barriers.

Q. Drawing on your years of experience as an international journalist, how would you assess the importance of the media in shaping world events?

A. The media are among the most important elements in any society whether in the East or the

West, and that's why people who want power try to have access to the media or control over it. That's also why governments are careful about who controls their media. For example, foreigners are not allowed to own television stations in the United States.

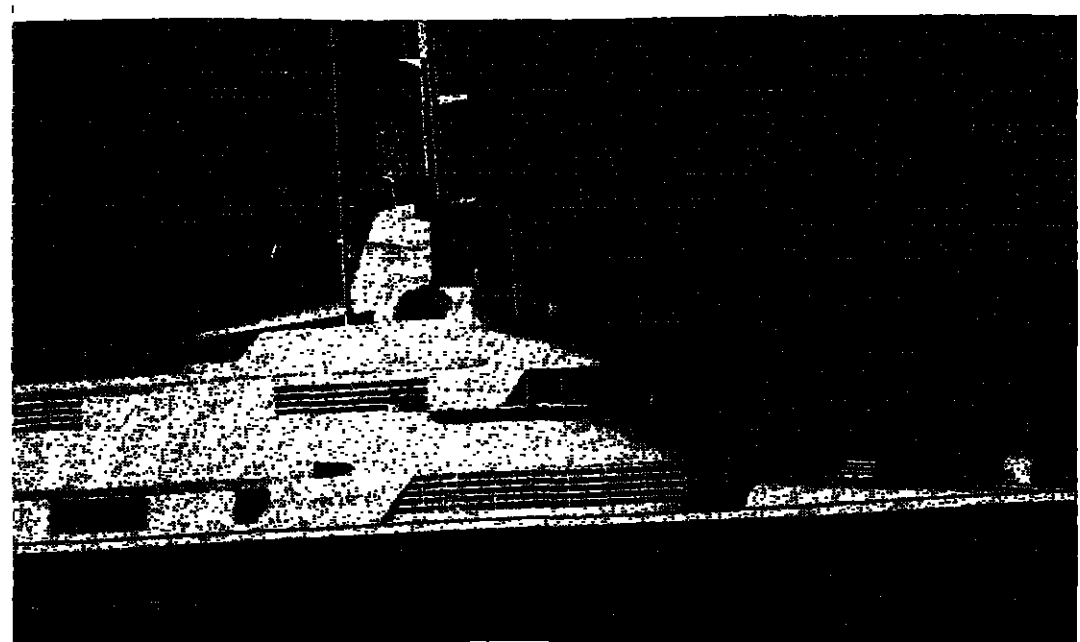
Another thing that I've learned is that the impact the media have is not necessarily an immediate impact. It takes a number of years for public opinion to be reshaped. Many topics that nobody talked about a few years ago have become central political issues now, like the environment, Third World poverty, and drugs. These problems have existed for many years but it is the media that have refocused attention on them. Today, these issues can no longer be ignored.

The media also play a key role in keeping the power of governments limited. They act as a counterweight, in favour of the people. It's very difficult today for Western governments to restrict activities of trade unions, for example, because of the potential outcry of the media. There has been, in the past twenty years, a redistribution of cards, as far as power is concerned. The power of the government has decreased and the power of the press, trade unions, parliament, political parties and associations has increased. How long this will last, nobody knows, but in the United States, that trend is coming to an end. I think that in the next twenty years, there will be a gradual increase in the power of the government again, because the American government has lost too much power, and it must regain some back. In Europe, on the other hand, in the coming years the inclination will remain toward less power for the government.

Q. What have been the high points in your career as a journalist?

A. When I was in Iran, I wrote a series of articles about the Arab World. I feel I contributed a lot to an understanding by the Iranian people and their leaders of Arabs and Arab issues. During the time of the Shah, I travelled extensively between Iran and the Arab countries. I described them, interviewed their leaders, and helped bring them closer to the Iranian public. It helped Iranians understand their neighbours better because even though Iranians and Arabs are neighbours, they have virtually no contact. I think it was beneficial for the Iranians to read about Arabic countries instead of reading all the time about the West. Iran had been looking to West for the last three hundred years. It did not realise that it is part of Asia. We thought that we were accidentally there, and separated from the West by foreigners, like Arabs and Turks.

During my career I also interviewed many world leaders, including Deng Xiaoping, Saddam Hussein, and Indira Gandhi but the one that I enjoy the most was my interview with King Faisal. I was very pleased that I had a chance to talk with him. I'd met, a man with clear views and vision. He also had strong beliefs and convictions, a rarity among politicians and leaders. We had a very interesting discussion about the future of Islam and how Islam should cope with the modern world. He is a leader for whom I have a lot of respect. That interview with King Faisal was one that I enjoyed immensely — Arab News.



Did you know that...?

By Michel Delabarre

The Establishment Petition company have specialised in the problems of public lighting and their field of competence stretches from the simple streetlight right to those huge pylon-masts which light up aerodromes, big crossroads, ports, marshalling yards, etc. A curious fact is that this firm which is not very well known to the public is the top company in its field in the world and supplies products to many various countries. The firm is situated in Troyes in the Aube department.

From the times when ships were made of wood and used sails, the Lancelins have been rope makers from generation to generation. This firm provides all kinds of ropes in all kinds of materials and of such a high quality that seafarers know the value of their products. Their reputation is the greatest in the area of racing and there is not a single skipper, whatever his nationality, who does not know the address of the Lancelins ropemakers in Mayenne.

Technology

The internal roundabout. In the framework of research on the road network of Europe in 1992, the technicians at the National Points et Chaussees Laboratory together with researchers from all the European states have recently created a "fatigue" circuit 40 metres across, in Nantes. In the centre, turbines with a strength of 1,000 horsepower can produce a speed of up to 100 kilometres an hour in four gigantic stakes arranged in the form of a cross. At the end of each arm, there is a vehicle undercarriage whose road-load can be made to vary. The canopy is covered with various sensors taking into consideration the variations in the multiple parameters causing wear

in the road-surface. A year of this treatment will lead to the same conditions as those a road suffers in 10 years. A single truck causes the same amount of wear as ten thousand cars.

Cleaning with ice.

The problem posed to the researchers at the French Atomic Energy Commission was how to get rid of every trace of radioactivity on equipment which had to be repaired or which was to be scrapped without leaving any trace of harmful physical or chemical elements. The principle chosen was the one used for sand-blasting buildings to clean them or for cleaning mechanical parts. But the process is rough and poses another problem, that of stocking the sand used for cleaning before it, in turn, can be decontaminated.

Drawing inspiration from snow-cannons, the "Cryonet" was developed. The idea is simply to use water whose drops are carefully calibrated in nitrogen gas at -140°C, and then to drop them into a vat containing liquid nitrogen at -196°C. These "micronised" droplets then became very hard and spraying them in a jet at a pressure of 7 to 14 bars, together with the effect of the cold, ensure perfect cleaning properties, with the water collected being easier to decontaminate. But the effects of this technique are far wider than this specific case of cleaning which it was initially intended for. In addition to its abrasive effects, the cold brings about the immediate removal of coatings, paint, etc. from their support, ensuring perfect cleaning of all kinds of motor parts or aircraft parts and including the removal of sand from lobsters and fish frozen on the fishing grounds immediately they are caught, as well as cleaning the installations of food-processing

plants or the restoration of fragile monuments which are then merely "stroked" by the particles as the equipment can be regulated.

A simple idea

When, right at the beginning of spring, fresh vegetables begin to appear in France, the inhabitants of the east coast of the United States still do not have any owing to the harsh climate, and they have them brought over from the west coast where the climate is milder, at great expense. The farmers in Brittany have problems with surpluses of production. On looking at a map, they realised that the distance between California and the east coast of the USA was bigger than the distance between the east coast and Brittany. This gave them the idea of chartering an aircraft and loading it with cauliflowers and other early spring vegetables and flying them over. The operation seems to be going well. All that was needed was the idea.

A meeting

"Star Princess" is the third in the series of cruise liners designed and built by the Chantiers de l'Atlantique shipyard in Saint-Nazaire. It was launched on 26th March and christened by Audrey Hepburn. Like its sister-ships, it has an original system of propulsion as, in addition to the classical engines, it has the rigging of a schooner whose huge sails are controlled by computers and either system can be used according to the circumstances. This leads to important fuel savings. A curious coincidence is that in early February the first two of these ships met up at the same stop-over in the Caribbean with the "Norway" (formerly the "France") which had also been built at the Chantiers de l'Atlantique shipyard — French features

Barbados: Running out of Barbadian caviar

BARBADOS — Illegal fishing because of tourist willingness to pay exorbitant prices is threatening to ruin a government-imposed ban on the gathering of sea-eggs, a Barbadian delicacy, writes Uric Rice from Barbados.

The spiny white sea urchin is prized for its delicious and protein-rich roe, which can be prepared in several spicy dishes — or eaten raw like oysters.

Because of overfishing and marine pollution, the sea-egg had almost vanished from the reefs which are its natural habitat.

In 1987 the government imposed a two-year ban on sea-egg harvesting so that the reefs could be replenished with marketable urchins.

The ban was scheduled to end in September, with the new fishing season from September to December. But tourists are paying \$60-70 (U.S.\$30-35) for a half-gallon container of the golden yellow roe.

Several beaches on the south and east coasts of the island are littered with hundreds of broken

sea-egg shells.

The Barbados Environmental Association (BEA) says that the shells tell two tales: firstly, that the two-year ban has worked in helping to allow recovery of the sea-eggs; but secondly, it appears that Barbadians have not learned from their mistakes.

"Illegal harvesting, brazenly occurring on our shores, will quickly return us to where we were two years ago — with no sea-eggs in Barbados," the BEA says. — PANOS.

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JORDAN MARKET PLACE

Iran amends 5-year plan, needs \$16 billion financing

NICOSIA, Cyprus (Agencies) — Iranian President Hashemi Rafsanjani Sunday outlined major changes in a plan to revive the country's sluggish economy said another \$16 billion would be needed to finance them.

Rafsanjani said the mining, oil, gas, petrochemical, cement, rubber and paper industries would receive "special attention" as Iran strives to rebuild its war-battered installations.

Speaking at his first press conference since he formed his new government last August, he said his ministers had revised a previous five-year economic plan put together by the last government. Major changes in the plan hiked projected expenditures from some \$96 billion over the next five years to \$112 billion, Rafsanjani said.

The press conference was broadcast on Tehran radio and monitored in Nicosia.

The five-year economic plan, launched at the start of the Iranian year in March, is designed to revitalise the country's stagnant economy.

After eight years of war which tapped an annual \$10 billion of the country's resources, many of Iran's industries have fallen into disrepair due to neglect. Others have to be updated with new technology in order to remain competitive.

Iran relies on oil and gas exports for 95 per cent of its foreign exchange.

But its leaders are crucially aware that stagnant or dropping oil prices require boosting oil and other non-oil exports to feed Iran's 50 million population. Growing at one of the fastest rates in the world, the population will double by 2010 at present rates.

Rafsanjani said his changes will be financed by boosting non-oil exports three-fold over the next five years.

"We must boost non-oil exports from the present \$3 billion to \$9 billion" over five years, Rafsanjani said.

He said that part of these earnings would be injected back to the private sector in order to make it flourish.

Rafsanjani's bold new changes are opposed by a powerful radical faction within the leadership which believes in maintaining the government's stranglehold on the

economy. But Rafsanjani, leader of a so-called pragmatic faction which wants to ease the government's tight grip and resuscitate private industry, sees the private sector as the key to his economic plans.

In his press conference, he said that segments of government-owned industry would be sold to the private sector, and that "priority will be given to workers and factory personnel who want to buy the plants."

In what is his most radical policy, he announced that private industry and crucial parts of state-run industry will be given foreign exchange at preferential rates of around 600 rials to the dollar, to buy vital needed raw materials and technology.

Because of a shortage of foreign currency, private companies have been unable to buy dollars at the official, artificially inflated rate of around 70 rials to the dollar.

Businessmen were forced to resort to the black market, where rates hovered around 1,000 rials and up.

By adopting a more realistic exchange rate, the government hopes to drive down the black-market rate and eliminate distortions in the market.

This could help control runaway inflation. The official inflation rate is 23 per cent, but the real rate is much higher.

In another attempt to boost the dollar supply, new regulations have been introduced whereby Iranian travellers can carry up to \$5,000 in or out of the country without restrictions.

Speaking to reporters, Rafsanjani said some core industries will be given permission to talk with foreign governments and companies to obtain loans that would boost industry and raise the level of technology.

But he said the condition for such foreign-exchange loans was that the "implemented plans must be able to generate the foreign exchange to pay back the loans."

Indicating that Iran may seek foreign loans to establish new

industries, Rafsanjani said that "additional financing will come from foreign resources."

Foreign borrowing has been a hot issue anathema to the radicals. They believe it will compromise Iran's independence and push the country into a cycle of borrowing to repay previous loans.

A strong indication that Iran will seek foreign borrowing came when Economy and Finance Minister Mohsen Nourbakhsh said last month that Iran will resume payments to the International Monetary Fund, which it suspended about two years ago.

Rafsanjani added that further financing from his plans will come from boosting tourism.

Friendly separation

Meanwhile, Iran and Mitsui and Company have agreed to wind up the giant Iran-Japan Petrochemical Company (IJPC) project, which was damaged and stalled by the Iran-Iraq war, a Mitsui spokesman has said.

He said Mitsui's president, Koichiro Ejiri, and Ahmad Rahgozar, managing director of Iran's National Petrochemical Company, agreed late Sunday in Tehran that the 18-year-old project would be cancelled.

Iran and Japanese companies have invested 600 billion yen (\$4.23 billion) in the 50-50 joint venture, located at the northern Gulf port city of Bandar Khomeini.

The two sides agreed on how to wind up the project, including

financial compensation, which cannot be fully revealed now, the spokesman said. Iran will make some repayments to Japanese banks while Mitsui and other Japanese companies will make larger payments to Iran.

Mitsui, which heads the Japanese consortium in the project, officially asked Iran to wind it up 10 months ago. Work on the complex was stalled by the Islamic revolution in Iran in 1979 and the Iran-Iraq war from 1980 to 1988.

The complex was 85 per cent complete when war broke out but the site was hit by Iraqi air raids and the equipment has suffered from neglect in recent years, making the project very costly to finish.

The Mitsui spokesman said the Japanese partners in the project would apply to the Japanese government for trade insurance, which at most would cover 166.2 billion yen (\$1.17 billion) of the 233.9 billion (\$1.65 billion) they provided in investment and loans.

Japan's ministry of international trade and industry originally discouraged Mitsui from pressing too hard to withdraw from the project for fear of upsetting Japan's relations with Iran, industry analysts said.

But a ministry official said: "We welcome Mitsui's attitude of friendly separation. Judging from their misfortune, IJPC partners seem to have had no choice but to abandon the project."

The Mitsui spokesman said the

Pollution concerns threaten lower oil income for Arabs

ABU DHABI (R) — Arab oil producing states are worried that growing environmental concerns in the world may hit their oil revenues.

Abdul Aziz Al Wattani, the secretary general of the Organisation of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries (OAPEC), said such concerns have led to calls for "rationalisation of energy consumption."

"This will raise big problems for OAPEC producers and increase international pressure at a time when they do not yet have a joint approach on how to tackle the issue," Wattani told Reuters in an interview.

He said OAPEC was working on the problem and would send a delegation to Brussels in December headed by the United Arab Emirates (UAE) oil minister Mansour bin Zayed to discuss the matter with the European Commission.

OAPEC's 10 members earn about \$60 billion from the production of around 14 million barrels of oil and they sit on 60 per cent of world crude reserves, enough to carry them well into the next century as producers.

OAPEC includes the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting

Countries (OPEC) members Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Iraq, the UAE, Qatar, Libya, Algeria and non-OPEC Syria, Egypt and Bahrain.

Arab producers were worried about the high sulphur content of their crudes, especially the ones produced in the Gulf, oil industry sources said.

Sulphur is a major pollutant and removing it requires special units to be installed at refineries at additional cost.

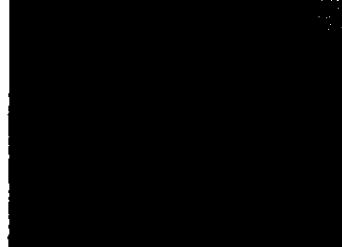
"We cannot ignore this (pollution) issue any more. It has assumed political proportions and is concerning the whole world," Wattani said.

He said OAPEC oil ministers will discuss the issue when they meet in Abu Dhabi Nov. 22 for their annual conference.

"Before we close the door and say the oil industry should be curbed, we should study ways to resolve the problem and find alternatives," Wattani said.

He said the alternatives included upgrading refineries and producing petroleum products which were environmentally acceptable.

Meanwhile, OPEC Secretary-General Subroto said OPEC experts would meet independent oil



Hashemi Rafsanjani

wind-up agreement was endorsed by Iranian Oil Minister Gholamreza Agazadeh but still needed ratification by Iran's parliament and approval from Japanese government agencies.

The spokesman declined to comment on the total sum the Japanese partners would pay Iran, but he said the Iran Chemical Development Company, a Japanese investment unit for the project, would pay some 68 billion yen (\$480 million) guarantees to cover loans to Iran by European banks.

Japanese partners will also pay an undisclosed sum to Iran to share the burden of Iran's unilateral spending on the project after 1983.

Mitsui Vice-President Kazuo Horing said recently that Mitsui was confident of future business opportunities in Iran despite the dispute over the petrochemical complex.

"We are not leaving Iran altogether. I think Japanese companies can help Iran mend fences with Western nations and thus revitalise its economy," he said.

ECONOMIC NEWS BRIEFS

Innab meets Saudi official

AMMAN (Petra) — Industry and Trade Minister Ziad Innab Monday discussed with the Saudi under secretary of ministry of finance and national economy for international cooperation affairs, Usama Al Faqih, means of further developing bilateral cooperation. Innab stressed the Jordanian government's interest in developing scopes of cooperation with the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in all fields. Innab voiced the government's appreciation to Saudi Arabia for its financial support to Jordan to help it face the difficult situation which Jordan has recently passed through.

Jordan hikes agricultural exports

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan has exported 393,000 tonnes of fruit and vegetables during the first nine months of this year, compared with 290,000 tonnes during the same period in 1988, thus achieving an increase of 103,000 tonnes, a report in Al Dustour Arabic daily said Sunday. In September alone, a total of 41,400 tonnes of vegetables and fruit were exported mainly to the Arab Gulf countries. The exports to Saudi Arabia accounted for 45.5 per cent, followed by Kuwait which imported 26.9 per cent and the United Arab Emirates which ranked third, as it received 17.5 of Jordan farm exports. However, a total of 24.1 tonnes of fruit and vegetables were exported to Europe, according to the Agricultural Marketing Corporation.

Saudi food firm offers shares

NICOSIA (R) — A new Saudi Arabian food company has offered over one million shares to the public at 100 riyals (\$26.67) per share. Riyadh-based Food Products Company said in advertisements in Saudi Arabian newspapers that it would be capitalised at 200 million riyals (\$53.33 million). The company would market its products of canned food inside and outside the kingdom. Its founders, Saudi nationals, would own 48 per cent of the shares while the public could subscribe for the balance of 1.035 million before the closing date of November 7.

Iraqi date exports may bring \$35 m

BAGHDAD (AP) — Iraq expects to export dates worth about \$35 million this year, more than double last year's total, Agriculture and Irrigation Minister Abdullah Bader Danouk has said. Danouk said most of the palm groves in the region of the Shatt Al Arab waterway of southern Iraq, some of the heaviest fighting in the war, were destroyed. The country currently has about 22 million palm trees, most of them in central and southern Iraq, compared to a pre-war figure of more than 30 million, he added. Danouk said current date production was about 353,000 tons, representing 22 per cent of world production. He added that Iraqi date exports account for about 70 per cent of world demand. Iraq sold off state-run date-processing plants last year to the private sector for 50 million dinars (\$150 million) in a privatization programme to revitalise its war-battered industry.

Singapore sharply curbs smoking ads

SINGAPORE (R) — Singapore's parliament has passed a bill extending a ban on cigarette advertisements to cover private premises, posters and hoardings. Cigarette advertisements were already banned on radio and television and in newspapers. Acting Health Minister Yeo Cheow Tong said smoking was largely responsible for the deaths of about 2,600 Singaporeans each year, or seven each day.

Iran reports vast gas reserves

NICOSIA (R) — Iran has found vast reserves of natural gas in the southern province of Fars, the national news agency IRNA has said. The agency quoted local parliamentary representative Reza Hussini as saying the fields, around the town of Lamard, extended 80 kilometres in length and 12 kilometres across. IRNA said the deposits would supply gas for 200 years. "According to oil ministry experts the deposit is the third biggest in the country... it contains 8,000 billion cubic metres of gas in its western wing alone," Hussini said. Iran has the world's second biggest natural gas reserves after the Soviet Union.

S. Korean economy picks up again

SEOUL (AP) — The South Korean economy is showing signs of recovery after a 16-month slump, but improved exports and more investment are needed to continue the upswing, a government agency has said. The Economic Planning Board said economic indicators had been rising and the slump that began in February 1988 started to give way to recovery in July. The South Korean economy was hit by labour unrest, rising costs and a slump in exports as the won currency appreciated. The board said industrial production rose three per cent in July from the same period a year earlier, while operating rates hit 77.9 per cent, the highest level since February. Construction permits and domestic machinery orders were up, indicating a recovery, the board said. A 0.9 per cent increase in exports in July, compared to the same period last year, failed to last as exports fell 0.3 per cent in August, the board said. But letters of credit for the coming months indicated figures would improve, it said.

AMMAN EXCHANGE RATES

Monday, October 9, 1989
Central Bank official rates

	Buy	Sell	French franc	97.3	98.3
U.S. dollar	622.0	628.0	Japanese yen (for 100)	437.4	441.8
Pound Sterling	996.9	1006.9	Dutch guilder	291.8	294.7
Deutschemark	329.5	332.9	Swedish crown	96.3	97.3
Swiss franc	378.6	382.4	Italian lira (for 100)	45.1	45.6
			Belgian franc (for 10)	156.7	158.3

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Monday.

One Sterling	1.5825/35	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.1742/52	Canadian dollar
	1.8858/65	Deutschemarks
	2.1285/95	Dutch guilders
	1.6440/50	Swiss francs
	39.64/67	Belgian francs
	6.3930/80	French francs
	1379/1380	Italian lire
	142.50/60	Japanese yen
	6.4730/80	Swedish crowns
	6.9775/825	Norwegian crowns
	7.3450/500	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	362.90/363.40	U.S. dollars

WORLD STOCK MARKETS

SYDNEY — Australian shares drifted to end little changed after Wall Street's rise failed to spark enthusiasm. The All Ordinaries index closed 0.3 up at 1773.2.

TOKYO — Eager buyers of expensive blue chip stocks launched a rebound in the Nikkei index which closed 167 points up at 35,376.35.

HONG KONG — The Hong Kong stock market closed for Chung Yung holiday.

SINGAPORE — Prices closed generally firmer but selected profit-taking in the afternoon pared early gains. The Straits Times industrial index fell 0.37 to 1,420.18.

BOMBAY — Prices were broadly higher on heavy buying by institutions at the start of the new account but most individual investors were sellers.

FRANKFURT — Shares gained on strong foreign and domestic demand for blue chips as the market emerged from interest rate worries. The 100-share FAZ index rose 2.87 to 687.25.

ZURICH — Prices were steady to marginally higher in slow trading. Many investors stayed away because U.S. markets were closed. The all-share Swiss performance index rose 2.2 to 1,196.5.

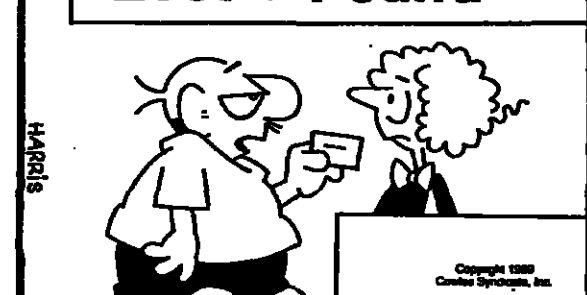
PARIS — Shares were slightly firmer in quiet trading. The 50-share bourse indicator rose by 0.24 per cent.

LONDON — The market closed sharply lower, depressed by continuing worries about the weakness of sterling. One trader said prices were marked down in hope of finding buyers. The FTSE 100 index fell 30.5 to 2,247.0.

NEW YORK — Light profit-taking nudged prices lower in thin trading since the U.S. Treasury market was closed for the Columbus Day holiday. The Dow slipped four to 2,781.

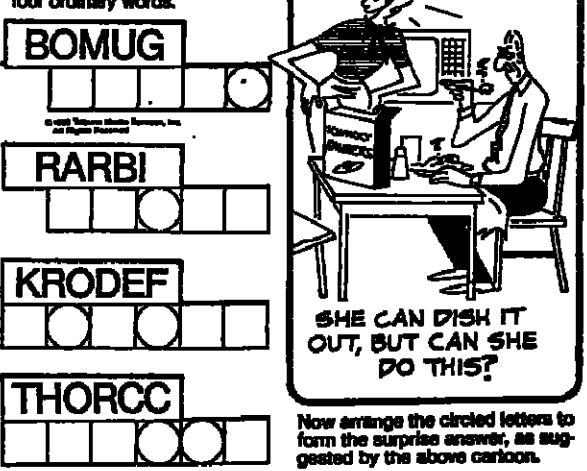
THE BETTER HALF. By Harris

Lost + Found



JUMBLE. THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.



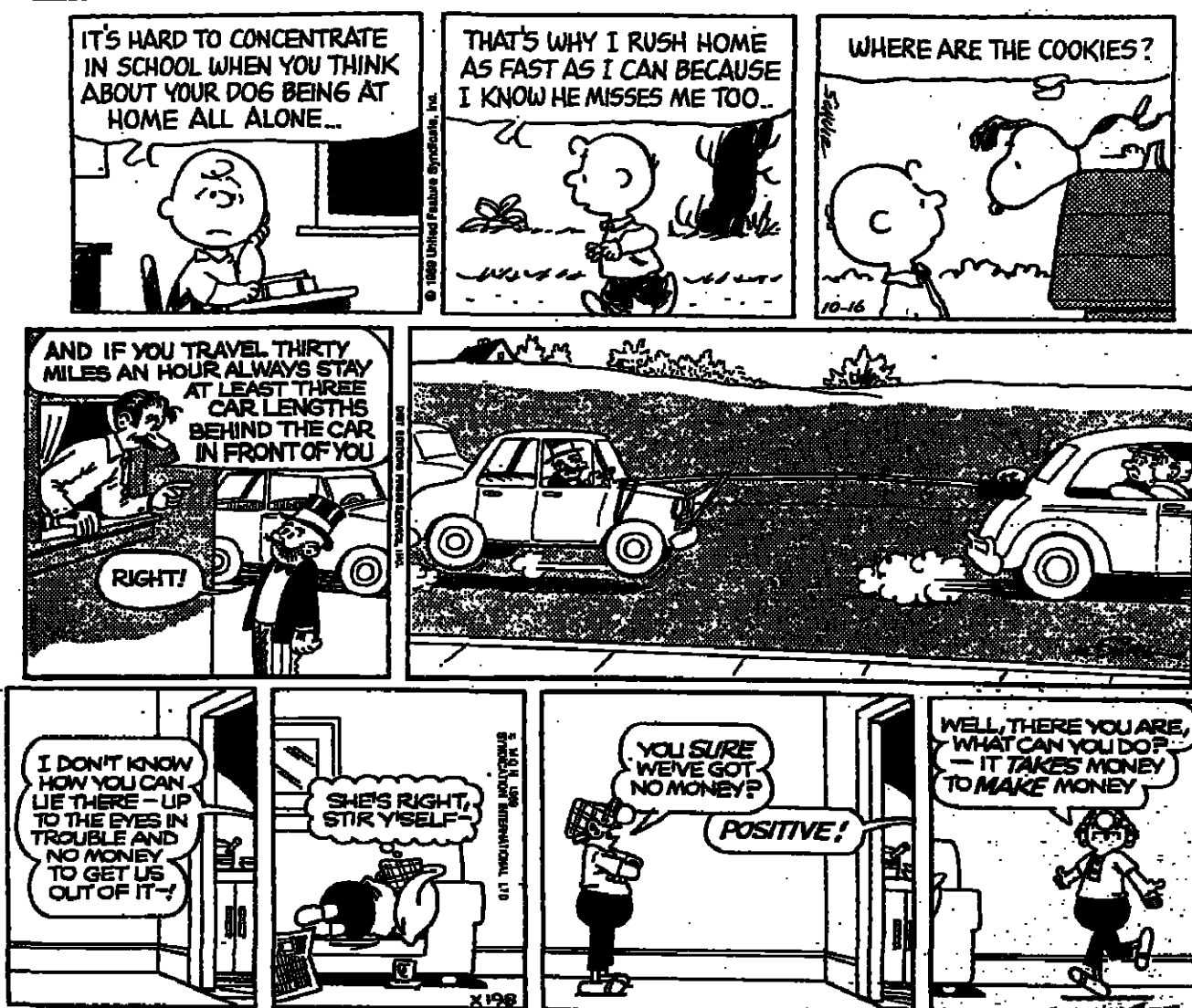
Print answer here:

Yesterday's Jumbles: AUDIT DECRY ENMITY BARRON
Answer: That lonely guy robbed a bank just so he could feel this—'WANTED'

Peanuts

Mutt'n' Jeff

Andy Capp



Ibrahim Ayyoub

Ayyoub fixes price, quality of sandwich bread

AMMAN (Petra) — Supply Minister Ibrahim Ayyoub Monday fixed the price of the improved sandwich bread at 140 fils per each kilogramme provided that the weight of a loaf should in no way be less than 100 grammes. Ayyoub said that all bakeries should use the "Zero" brand wheat and to add to it milk, sugar and other ingredients.

The minister's decision said that all bakeries should produce the other Arab bread in addition to the sandwiches bread and should sell it by the kilogramme and not by loaf.

The decision takes effect Tuesday, Oct. 10.

A spokesman for the Supply Ministry cited non-adherence by the bakeries to the specifications of the sandwich bread and their selling it by loaf as the main reason for the minister's decision.

He said that bakers have produced and sold bread by loaf and not by the kilogramme, thus violating the ministry's regulations.

Moreover, the source added, bakers produced loaves weighing 50-100 grammes and sold it at 200-250 fils per each kilogramme. All these violations have prompted the ministry to interfere and to set the specifications and prices of sandwich bread.

ACC energy officials sign cooperation agreement

AMMAN (Petra) — Ministers of oil, and mineral resources in the four Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) member states, Jordan, Iraq, Egypt and North Yemen, Monday signed an agreement of cooperation in the area of oil and gas. The agreement provides for cooperation and coordination in producing and consuming oil and gas and for setting long-term objectives for the ACC states and drawing up standard specifications for oil products.

Under the agreement, the four ministries undertake to carry out joint research, set up laboratories, cooperate in oil exploration and refining the various oil products. The ministers will also work on removing any obstacles facing the smooth transportation and exchange of oil products, and will coordinate their efforts in feasibility studies for joint oil projects.

Pressure builds for Madrid

Reuters

REAL MADRID Manager John Toshack knows how his beleaguered Barcelona counterpart Johan Cruyff has felt recently following Real's 3-1 defeat by their arch-rivals in the Nou Camp Stadium Saturday.

The pressure on the Spanish League champions increased still further Sunday when local rivals Atletico Madrid stole their top-of-the-league position by beating Zaragoza 2-1 at home.

To make matters worse, Real's Spanish international striker Emilio Butragueno looks unlikely to play in the European Cup second round first leg tie at AC Milan on October 18 after spraining an ankle.

"There are sprains that take 10 or 20 days to cure. We'll try to get him ready for the Milan match but that's in 10 days' time and we'll be hard pushed," said Real's team doctor.

Cruyff, meanwhile, took the opportunity to deny there had ever been a crisis for the Catalan club this season. "There is no crisis and there has been no crisis except for you, the media," he told reporters after the match.

Atletico Madrid coach Javier Clemente was, not surprisingly, in more relaxed mood, but said

he would like his team to win by wider margins so that they could play less defensive football.

"I'd like to see us win 2-0 some time so that we can enjoy it more," he said.

"We always have the fans on the verge of a nervous breakdown and the players were a little frightened as well," said Clemente, who has no doubts about Atletico's ability to win the league.

"Milan — disaster" ran the headlines in Italy's Gazzetta Dello sport newspaper after AC Milan's 1-0 league defeat against newly-promoted Cremonese.

Milan, still missing four key players including Ruud Gullit, slumped to seventh place in the standings with a meagre eight points from eight games in their worst start to the season for six years.

European footballer of the year Marco van Basten, making a comeback after six weeks' absence following a knee operation, reported no problems with his fitness afterwards but was more concerned with his team's performance.

"This was a Milan best forgotten," he said. "I was used to playing in a certain position and the balls used to arrive for me there. But now the balls aren't arriving and I'm there waiting in vain."

Soviets host pro-tennis tourney

MOSCOW (AP) — The surface is top-grade rubber, most of the players are foreign and thousands of dollars are at stake.

Nothing unusual for an indoor tennis tournament — except that it's being played in the Soviet Union.

Professional tennis makes its debut in the Soviet Union this week with a 100,000-dollar women's tournament that has attracted a calibre of player usually associated with far more lucrative events.

"The field here is one of the strongest I have ever known for a tournament of this size," said Brenda Perry, a tour director with the Women's International Tennis Association. "This is one for the history books and the interest shown by the players reflects it."

Top seed for the 17,000-dollar first prize is Pam Shriver of the United States, a late entry to the singles draw and ranked 11th in the world. If the seedings hold up, Shriver would meet Natalia Zvereva, 1988 French Open finalist and the world's 14th ranked player, in the championship match next Sunday.

"To have players close to the top 10 in a 100,000-dollar event is rare," Perry said. "If the tournament is a success, it could be a forerunner of many more in the future."

The indoor tournament, the

latest stop on the Virginia Slims circuit, begins Tuesday at Moscow's Olympic stadium and marks another breakthrough in East-West sporting relations.

Last month, the Calgary Flames and the Washington Capitals made an eight-game tour of the Soviet Union.

The Soviet Union's first professional boxing tournament was held this summer in Tallinn along the Baltic coast, and the country is scheduled to stage its first world title fight next month in the Armenian capital of Yerevan.

Now tennis is set to profit from the opening of Soviet sports under Mikhail Gorbachev's policy of perestroika.

"Before this, the only international tennis we had outside team competitions were a couple of exhibitions and an amateur event that gave a piece of crystal glass to the winner," said Vsevolod Kukulshin, head of sport at the Soviet news agency TASS and press chief for this week's tournament.

"Now they are playing for money, not crystal glass. It's a real tournament," Kukulshin said. "It's a very special occasion."

To mark the occasion, two bright blue supreme rubber courts have been installed, shipped in from the United States to cover what is normally a hard wooden floor.

"We've never played on supreme before," Kukulshin said. "This is another first."

Sponsor appears to be the biggest problem for Soviet organisers.

Last month, a joint Soviet-Yugoslav business consortium suddenly pulled out of the tournament, saying it had no money. To save the event, Soviet sports and television authorities combined to put up the prize money.

Proserv, the American-based sports marketing and management organisation, was drafted to manage and promote the event and bring in additional revenue.

"It hasn't been easy," said Joshua Rippe, Proserv's tournament director. "It was a question of time. We found the backing but lots more companies would have liked to be sponsors had they not already finalised their budgets."

Rippe admitted his company was taking a gamble by agreeing to become involved in an unknown venture.

"This is a business like any business, but none of us know what this tournament will generate," he said. "We decided to have a shot at it and roll the dice. We are pretty confident that the risk is a good one."

First impressions, he said, have exceeded expectations.

U.S. wins 13th Federation Cup

TOKYO (R) — Retiring tennis superstar Chris Evert awarded herself a farewell present Monday as the United States demolished Spain 3-0 and swept to a record 13th victory in the Federation Cup women's team tennis championship.

The triumph, which Evert said meant "ending on the highest note" came after her long-time friend and rival Martina Navratilova summoned up all her reserves to overcome French Open champion Arantxa Sanchez 6-3, 6-4 in a two-hour battle of nerves.

Second-seeded Spain, who had never before progressed beyond the second round in the cup, took the defeat as valuable experience for Sanchez and Conchita Martinez, both 17 years old.

Victory for the veteran American team, who last won the cup in 1986, made up for defeat in the 1987 final and a second round loss last year in Melbourne.

The final provoked high emotion all round. "When I was serving for the match, I was a wreck," Navratilova said. "This being Chris's last tournament it was that much more meaningful for all of us."

Evert, 34, started the victory roll by playing a consistent game to outclass fellow baseliner Martinez 6-3, 6-2 in 81 minutes.

"(This win) means a lot," said Evert. "What better way to end (my career) than when you're playing for your country on a great team with good friends?"

She broke Martinez's first and third service games and looked on the way to a whitewash until the Spaniard employed her impressive speed and graceful backhand to break back in the eighth game.

But Evert again broke Martinez's serve to take the first set 6-3.

Sanchez began with a hurricane of topspin forehands, probing volleys and passing shots, giving Navratilova a rare set-to-love loss.

It was only the second set the United States, who beat defending champions Czechoslovakia along the way, had dropped in the tournament.

"In the first set she played incredibly well," said Navratilova, the world number two. "She served well and returned well ... She had me running."

But the Spaniard's concentration lapsed in set two while Navratilova's willpower intensified.

Navratilova, who has won 18 grand slam titles, said the cup would possibly be her last tournament. "It has gone beyond my wildest dreams," Evert said of her 18-year playing career. "It has opened a lot of doors and opportunities that I otherwise would not have had."

The turning point came in the third set after one service break each put the score at 1-1, with Sanchez to serve. The game went to deuce twice before Navratilova prevailed in a rally to take a break point.

The Czechoslovak-born American, playing her sixth Federation Cup in a "stars and stripes" skirt, held her serve as the pressure began to tell on Sanchez.

The Spaniard hit three lobs out of court in the last two games and then struck a weak backhand towards the crowd to lose the match.

"She has more experience than me but I really enjoyed it and the next time we play I will beat her," Sanchez said.

Pam Shriver and Zina Garrison teamed up to take the doubles match against Martinez and Sanchez 7-5, 6-1 and gave the U.S. their 3-0 win.

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Unseeded American beats Edberg in Swiss final

BASEL, Switzerland (AP) — Unseeded Jim Courier upset top-seeded Stefan Edberg of Sweden 7-6 (8-6), 2-6, 6-3, 7-5 Sunday to capture the Swiss indoors men's tennis tournament.

The 19-year-old from Dade City, Florida, who had defeated fourth-seeded Aaron Krickstein in the second round and eighth-seeded Andres Gomez of Ecuador in the semifinals, won \$72,000 in his first grand prix final.

"This was by far my best tennis," said a jubilant Courier after the match. "It's an incredible feeling. I took advantage of the fact that Stefan could have played better."

Courier, after fighting off a set point in the tiebreak in the first set, was in control until 3-3 of the second set, when he was upset by a line call and Edberg won six straight games.

The Swede, ranked third in the world and victorious here in 1985, 1986 and 1988, seemed on his way to a fourth victory when the

players panned after the third set. But the 23-year-old Edberg started lethargically and lost the fourth set in 22 minutes. He saved two match points on his serve in the 12th game of the fifth set, but Courier closed it out with a topspin forehand lob just inside the baseline to win the match after 3½ hours.

Courier, ranked 35th in the world, was the 1986 and 1987 orange bowl champion, the first junior to win the prestigious tournament in successive years since Bjorn Borg. His biggest previous victory was his win over Andre Agassi in the French Open earlier this year.



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HOROSCOPE NOT RECEIVED

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF
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PUTTING UP A FALSE FRONT

Both vulnerable. North deals.

NORTH

♠ Q 7 5 4

♥ A Q

♦ Q

♣ A K J 6 3

WEST

♠ Void

♥ K J 2

♦ 7 5 3 2

♣ K 10 8 6 4

♠ 9 7

♥ Q 5 4

SOUTH

♠ A 10 8 6 3

♥ K J 10

♦ A J 9

♣ 5 2

The bidding:

North East South West

1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass

4 ♠ Pass 6 ♠ Pass

Pass Pass

Opening lead: Ten of ♠

Tenace wrote in praise of the

man who can make wrong seem

right. He would have been proud

of one of our Easts on this hand from

a high-level team game.

There is great dispute among ex-

perts about whether and when to

open one spade or one club with five

cards in each suit. Here, both

Norths chose to open one club, and

both North-South pairs arrived in

six spades via the most direct route.

Both Wests led the ten of clubs. At each table declarer rose with dummy's ace. One East followed suit with the four. Since declarer was solid everywhere except for trumps, he elected to make a safety play to insure his contract. He led a low spade from dummy and, when East produced the two, he inserted the three. A bemused declarer scooped in the first trump trick with the four, and as a result he had only one trump loser.

At the other table, East dropped the queen of clubs under the ace. Declarer realized that it was possibly an attempt to pull the wool over his eyes, but he decided that he didn't want to risk a safety play and find East ruffing the second club to defeat his slam. Since it was safe with any 2-1 trump distribution or a 3-0 split where West held the long trumps, he elected to play a spade to the ace. Now East had to score two trump tricks for down one.

The hand has an interesting point. While a club ruff might well beat the slam if trumps were 2-1, sometimes even the threat of a ruff can sway declarer from his appointed line onto a losing tack.

Guatemala reaches WC finals

GUATEMALA CITY, Guatemala (AP) — Costa Rica assured itself a first-ever World Cup tournament berth, despite a scoreless tie Sunday against the United States in a qualifying match.

With 11 points and no games left in the five-nation North American-Central American and Caribbean zone qualifying tournament, Costa Rica's berth appeared firm. Costa Ricans flooded the streets of San Jose, the capital city, to celebrate after the U.S.-Guatemala game ended.

For the United States, it was a missed opportunity.

The United States could have tied second-place Trinidad and Tobago with a victory. Instead, the Americans, who got one point for the tie, have eight points with two games remaining, a meeting with whitest El Salvador in Fenton on Nov. 5 before a showdown in Port of Spain, Trinidad, two weeks later.

If the Americans beat El Salvador, as they did Sept. 17, they would only need to tie Trinidad

and Tobago, which has nine points with one game left, in order to earn a trip to Italy for the finals.

The U.S. played in the World Cup in 1930, 1950 and 1950, but participation in those days was by invitation.

Several members of the U.S. squad appeared dejected entering the locker room after the game and declined to comment.

The Americans, playing without Latin-born stars Hugo Perez and Tab Ramos, had plenty of chances, putting 16 shots on the Guatemalan goal. But aging goalkeeper Ricardo Piccini, 39, made a half-dozen sparkling saves.

The Guatemalans, who have seven shots at goalkeeper Tony Meola, fielded an improvised squad that wasn't a true all-star contingent.

They started the Americans three minutes into the game when forward Edy Alburce, barely outside two steps outside the penalty area, took a pass from midfielder Oscar Sanchez. Unim-

ped by any U.S. defender, Alburce advanced on Meola and fired a hard, low left-footed shot that the sprawling goalkeeper deflected wide of the post.

The best scoring opportunity for the Americans came at 36 minutes when forward Bruce Murray took a centering pass and blasted a shot off Piccini. Murray had another chance with the bounding rebound, but Piccini blocked that shot, too.

Guatemala City has had two weeks of rain and the field at Mateo Flores Stadium was waterlogged at midfield near both sidelines. The rain held off Sunday, though, and the game was played under sunny skies before about 8,000 fans.

Latvian front votes for full independence

RIGA, Soviet Union (Agencies) — Members of a Latvian nationalist movement have voted overwhelmingly to change their goal from local autonomy to outright independence from the Soviet Union.

After discussing Sunday a 126-point platform including that goal, the 1,074 delegates at the second annual congress of the People's Front of Latvia approved it with only one opposing vote.

The programme is aimed at setting the stage for a declaration of independence at an unspecified date.

The congress also called for the demilitarisation of Latvia and for close cooperation with the other two Baltic republics, Lithuania and Estonia.

"We now have the backbone of the programme," said front spokesman Janis Jurkens. "We are still speaking about a transition period, and our most important task is to shorten that transition."

Other delegates said they would take economic and political measures to achieve their final aim, including forming independent economic ties with other Soviet republics.

But Jurkens said: "We have to explain that all this will not happen tomorrow."

The programme of the 200,000-strong Latvian front is the most radical issued in the three formerly independent republics, who have hitherto trodden a cautious path towards their aim of gaining greater control over their own affairs.

Popular Front groups founded in the past year have gained a large following in all three republics and have largely surpassed the local Communist parties in political authority.

Heightened nationalist sentiment culminated in August in a demonstration of up to two million people denouncing the 1940 incorporation of the republics into the Soviet Union as part of a Nazi-Soviet pact carving up Eastern Europe.

The final wording of the Latvian programme was adopted only after a battle over elections of members to the front's ruling council, with the leadership seeking to blunt the powers of radical splinter groups by limiting their numbers in the body.

After a walkout and the threat of a major split in the umbrella organisation, front leaders agreed to increase the number of seats in the council from 140 to 196, giving more room for a broad range of opinion.

Front official Juris Rubenis later called for an end to bitter

infighting within the organisation.

"Unity is more important than points of order. All Latvia and all the region is watching," Rubenis, a priest, told the session.

Some moderates have expressed fears that the Latvian programme could upset what Baltic officials said was Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev's tacit support for greater autonomy expressed at a meeting with leaders of the republics last month.

Gorbachev supported a decision in principle last July by the Soviet parliament to grant the republics a large measure of independence in conducting their economic affairs from 1990.

The front was winding up its session with the election of a chairman, widely expected to be current incumbent Dainis Ivars, a Communist Party member representing a broad moderate element.

Delegates said he was certain to fight off a challenge from Imants Kalnins of the radical nationalist independence movement, which claims 10,000 members.

Ivars's wing wants to take part actively in elections to the republican parliament expected in February or March and to implement its programme through legislation.

7 die on Colombian bus as new ministers named

BOGOTA (R) — Seven passengers were killed Sunday when a Bogota bus exploded in a fireball, and police said they were probing whether it had been bombed as part of the Colombian drug cartels' war against the government.

The bus exploded on a highway north of the city centre about an hour after President Virgilio Barco swore in three new government ministers in a move to end a cabinet crisis linked to the war with the drug traffickers.

Bogota Mayor Andres Pastrana said in a radio interview that the bus disaster, in which three of the dead were children, was apparently caused by a fire sparked by a mechanical failure.

But a Bogota police spokeswoman said first reports indicated the explosion had apparently been caused by a firebomb.

National police also said they were investigating whether it had been caused by explosives.

Police at national headquarters initially described the explosion as caused by a bomb but later said this was uncertain.

They said they were investigating to see if the incident was related to the wave of 64 bombings that have rocked Bogota since the drug lords declared war on Aug. 24 after President Barco launched his anti-narcotics crackdown.

A fire department official said the bus driver heard an explosion on the bus before flames engulfed the vehicle.

A senior policeman on the scene said the three children who died appeared to be aged between four and six.

Barco named three new ministers to overcome a cabinet crisis sparked two weeks ago with the resignation of Justice Minister Monica de Greiff, who had received death threats.

He named Carlos Lemos Simmonds as interior minister, Roberto Salazar Manrique as justice minister and Roberto Danies as communications minister.

Lemos Simmonds said after taking the oath of office that the government ruled out dialogue

with drug traffickers.

"The response to whatever proposal from drug traffickers was, is and will be 'no'," he said.

Lemos Simmonds confirmed to reporters that the government had received a proposal from drug traffickers that had been delivered to an ex-interior Minister Joaquin Vallejo Arbelaez.

Vallejo said the traffickers had proposed in September 1988 to give up the drug business in exchange for an end to extradition for trial abroad.

"The plain truth of this situation is that the government received a proposal from Vallejo Arbelaez and rejected it," said Lemos Simmonds.

Vallejo Arbelaez said in a television interview that the traffickers wanted to agree with the government to give up the drug trade because they considered themselves wealthy enough.

He said in a separate interview on RCN radio Sunday that he delivered their proposal in September of 1988.

43 killed in Sinhalese heartland

COLOMBO (AP) — The bodies of 16 young Sinhalese men, some with their faces burned beyond recognition, were found Monday at the spot where Sinhalese extremists wounded several soldiers in an ambush last week, residents reported.

The deaths were among 43 new killings in the Sinhalese heartland reported Monday by military officials.

The officials denied the military was responsible for the deaths of the 16 men whose bodies were found at Tudugala, 40 kilometres south of Colombo. Instead, they blamed "vigilantes" who they said were outraged by attacks on government troops.

Residents of Kalutara, which is near Tudugala, said by telephone the bodies were left along the

road at the place where the People's Liberation Front, a Sinhalese extremist group, ambushed an army patrol last week. The residents spoke on condition of anonymity.

The front has been attacking the Sinhalese-dominated government for the past two years since the signing of an accord designed to give greater autonomy to the island nation's Tamil minority and the arrival of Indian peacekeeping troops in predominantly Tamil areas. But the conflict has escalated into a bloody challenge of the government's authority.

About 5,000 people have died in the past two years in the central and southern Sri Lanka, where most of the country's Sinhalese majority lives.

Another 11,000 people, including 1,100 members of an Indian peacekeeping force, have died in the northeast, where most Tamils live and where Tamil guerrillas have been waging a six-year-old battle for a separate homeland.

The military officials in Colombo, who spoke on condition of anonymity in keeping with briefing rules, blamed the Sinhalese radicals for the killings of 11 Sinhalese civilians in the past 24 hours.

They said most of the victims were officials or supporters of the government.

In addition to blaming vigilantes for the 16 bodies found at Tudugala, the military also blamed vigilantes for the deaths of three young Sinhalese men whose bodies were found Mon-

day at Moratuwa, 19 kilometres south of Colombo.

All 19 victims died of gunshot wounds, the military officials said. They estimated the victims' ages at between 18 and 30.

Thirteen Sinhalese extremists were shot and killed during a series of government operations in the past 24 hours against the People's Liberation Front in central and southern Sri Lanka, the government said in a statement.

It said five of the extremists were killed when they tried to escape a military cordon in Ratnapura, 70 kilometres southeast of Colombo.

The communiqué, issued by the government's information department, said large quantities of arms and ammunition were recovered in the operations.

Pope calls for Christian loyalty in Indonesia

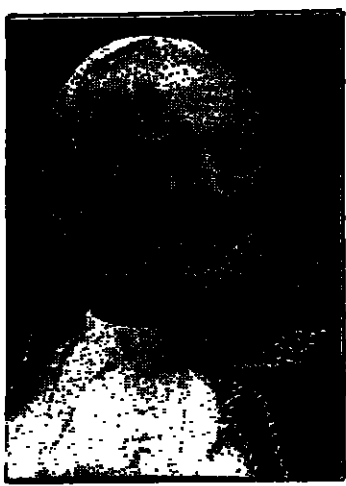
JAKARTA (R) — Pope John Paul arrived in Indonesia Monday and stressed that the Catholic minority must be loyal to the state in the world's populous Muslim country.

Addressing 120,000 faithful at a mass in a Jakarta stadium after arriving from Seoul on the second leg of an Asian tour, the Pope told Catholics to "render to civil society what is its due."

The pontiff will travel throughout the tropical archipelago during a five-day visit, including a controversial stop in the disputed territory of East Timor, which unlike most of Indonesia is predominantly Catholic, and where the United Nations and the Vatican do not recognise Jakarta's rule.

The Pope said at the mass, celebrated under an overcast tropical sky: "For the Believer, all authority has its origin in God, and those who exercise it for the common good should be respected for the sake of conscience."

He said the Catholic Church had always taught "that political



Pope John Paul II

authority and the duties of citizens have to do with the moral order. As a nation, you have incorporated this truth into your own national ethos."

More than 20 million Christians, a quarter of them Catholic, live in Indonesia, the world's fifth most populous country but they make up less than three per cent of the population, which is nearly 90 per cent Muslim.

The Christians, who have thrived under an atmosphere of religious tolerance and a state ideology that requires belief in one God, are keen to show they are integrated into the nation and avoid damaging their good relationship with Muslims.

President Suharto, who met the Pope at his Merdeka Palace before the mass, recently called on Catholics to be restrained in welcoming the pontiff.

Fresh scandal hits British royal family

LONDON (R) — Britain's royal family faced fresh domestic embarrassment Monday when a 23-year-old unmarried cousin of Queen Elizabeth told a newspaper she had been cut off by her parents after becoming pregnant.

Marina Ogilvy, who is 24th in line to the throne, told the tabloid Today that she had written to the queen — addressing her as "Dear Cousin Lilibet" — asking for help.

Ogilvy, a trained pianist, is the daughter of Princess Alexandra and businessman Sir Angus Ogilvy. She named the father of her baby as 26-year-old photographer Paul Mowatt with whom she is living in a modest suburban home outside London.

She said she did not dare to return to her parents' home in case she was kept against her will and that detectives had warned Mowatt he would be arrested if he were seen in the vicinity.

Her disclosure follows unwelcome publicity for the royal family in August when the Queen's daughter Princess Anne separated from her husband of 16 years, Captain Mark Phillips.

Dark-haired Ogilvy claimed in Today that her parents tried to trick her into having an abortion and cut off her £280 (£450) monthly allowance when she refused to get married at once.

Ogilvy, who has no title because her father is a commoner, said she and Mowatt wanted to wait until the baby was born before marrying.

The six-page report in Today prompted a statement of concern from royal aides on behalf of Princess Alexandra and her husband.

It said: "They are concerned at the number of inaccuracies. In particular, they have not 'cut off' their daughter. Marina is always welcome at her home. They love her very much and feel deeply for her at this difficult time."

Ogilvy spoke of a furious confrontation with her parents when she revealed her pregnancy.

She quoted Princess Alexandra as saying: "You have got two options — either you get it aborted straight away or we arrange for you to get married this week by special licence."

WORLD NEWS IN BRIEF

'Soviet tanks have edge on West'

LONDON (AP) — New weapons and equipment have given the Soviet Union an edge in tank forces, allowing it to withdraw thousands of older tanks from the front line facing the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO), a new study said Monday. The Soviets need fewer tanks because their latest models are superior in some cases to those of the West in armour, mobility and firepower, said Christopher F. Foss, editor of the 1989-1990 edition of "Jane's Armour and Artillery." Foss wrote in his foreword to the volume, describing the world's armoured vehicles and towed guns, that the past year was dominated by the Soviet decision to withdraw some of its conventional forces from Eastern Europe without waiting for similar NATO concessions. He said that what many observers failed to realise was that the quality of Soviet tanks had become superior. "The introduction of the T-64, T-72, and T-80 main battle tanks gave the Soviet Union a quantum leap in that they introduced new tanks with significant improvements in armour, mobility and firepower over their earlier T-54, T-55 and T-62 tanks," Foss said.

China hits Britain over Hong Kong

BEIJING (AP) — A Chinese official has accused Britain of adopting an "attitude of connivance" towards alleged efforts in Hong Kong to overthrow the Chinese government. Ke Zaishuo, who heads China's delegation to a Chinese-British liaison committee on Hong Kong, also blamed Britain for widespread fears in Hong Kong about the territory's scheduled return to Chinese rule in 1997. The fears have triggered mass efforts to emigrate and threatened Hong Kong's continued rapid economic growth. "The British side has unshirkable responsibility for the present problem of confidence in Hong Kong," the official Xinhua news agency quoted Ke as saying in an interview in the colony on China's southeastern coast. He specifically cited alleged "irresponsible actions" by Britain, including its postponement of the committee's regular meeting in June.

Claudio Abbado to succeed von Karajan

WEST BERLIN (R) — The Berlin Philharmonic, one of the world's greatest orchestras, has chosen Italian Claudio Abbado to succeed the late Herbert von Karajan as its chief conductor, a spokesman said Sunday. The spokesman told a news conference that Abbado, musical director of the Vienna State Opera since 1986, had accepted the engagement but contract details had still to be negotiated. He gave no details of the negotiations or voting which led to the choice of Abbado, 56. Anke Martiny, cultural senator in the West Berlin city government, told journalists the negotiations would certainly not be easy and would take a while to complete. She expected Abbado, who has given guest performances with the orchestra over the last 20 years, to arrive in West Berlin for talks during the coming week.

Roh urges stronger ties with U.S.

SEOUL (AP) — President Roh Tae-Woo, slated to meet with U.S. President George Bush next week, said Monday he hopes for stronger ties with the United States and scolded dissidents for displays of anti-Americanism. Roh said anti-American acts such as flag-burning and violent protest have contributed to anti-Korean sentiments in the United States, and he urged "the small number of extreme radicals to change their attitude." Roh said he had "reports that American feelings inside and outside the government towards our country are worsening as some (South Korean) forces have shown fierce anti-American sentiments and also committed violent acts." Radical students and dissidents, a small but vocal minority, have staged demonstrations demanding the withdrawal of 43,000 U.S. troops stationed in South Korea.

Private funeral for Bette Davis

NEW YORK (AP) — The body of movie star Bette Davis, who died in France at the age of 81, will be flown to Los Angeles this week for a private funeral, her attorney said. The two-time Academy Award winner, who had battled breast cancer for several years, died Friday night at the American Hospital in Paris. She had been on route to her California home from the San Sebastian Film Festival in Spain, where she had been honoured for her 60-year acting career. Her lawyer, Harold Schiff, said final arrangements to return Miss Davis' body to the United States could not be made until government offices in France opened Monday. Schiff said he and Miss Davis' son, Michael Merrill, planned to arrange a "very private funeral and a memorial service in a week or two."

COLUMN

Presley statue ruined by elements, fans

MEMPHIS, Tennessee (AP) — A bronze statue of Elvis Presley, whose looks made women swoon, will not win any beauty contests now. The figure is tarnished by graffiti and corrosion and the decorative fringe on the king's shirt is routinely stripped off by souvenir-seeking fans. Several Elvis fans are appalled and have written angry letters to Mayor Dick Hackett, demanding that the city repair the statue. As recently as July, the city paid \$1,800 to replace the shirt fringe and the strings on Elvis' guitar, and to have drain holes cut to reduce corrosion. But now, Hackett and others are hesitating because of the cost and because of uncertainty over who's really responsible for upkeep. Memphis, Light, Gas and Water owns the property under the statue but said it is unsure who is responsible. Pat Halloway, president of the Memphis Development Foundation, which commissioned the statue in 1980, says it's the city's responsibility because the statue was donated to Memphis. A spokesman for the mayor said he was trying to get millionaire Memphis promoter Sidney Shlenker or Graceland, which administers Elvis' estate, to take over the statue and make the repairs. Memphis Arts and Sciences Commission Chairman Downing Pryor said he would raise donations for the cleanup.

'Gold' haul was just shiny metal

NICOSIA (AP) — An Iranian official said Sunday an earlier report that police had seized 10 tons of gold being smuggled out of the country was false. Tehran Radio reported. The broadcast, monitored in Nicosia, quoted the head of the Hormuzgan gendarmerie, the southern province where the seizure was reported Sept. 26, as saying the shiny, golden alloy had been mistakenly identified as gold. The official, identified only as Sohrabi, said that "after the seizure by police, some local goldsmiths had been called in, and they unanimously identified the haul as a composite of gold and other metals." He said that "unfortunately, the media reported that 10 tons of gold had been seized." He added that experts at the central bank who examined the haul found no gold content. The haul was worth only about \$430,000, not the \$115 million originally reported, he said. "The metal was on its way to the Gulf states or Pakistan to be used for finishing on luxury metal products," the official said. The seizure was made a day after another raid where nine tons of gold and 2,000 gold coins were seized from smugglers.

Picasso could overtake van Gogh

PARIS (R) — Pablo Picasso could overtake Vincent van Gogh as the world's most expensive artist when two of his paintings go under the hammer at auctions in Paris and New York next month, art experts say. The price of Picasso's works has increased dramatically at auctions over the past year, and "Les Femmes d'Alger" (O.K. 1907), a work once thought lost or destroyed, could top the world record \$53.9 million paid for van Gogh's "Irises" in 1987. "Les Femmes d'Alger" (Fierrette's Wedding) will be sold in Paris Nov. 30 in a live satellite link-up with Tokyo, two weeks after his "Au Lapin Agile," a portrait of a moustache cabaret, is sold by Sotheby's auctioneers. A spokeswoman for Paris auctioneers Binocq et Godeau said both Picasso works were expected to rival the world record set by "Irises."

Global weather

(major world cities)

	MIN.	MAX.	Weather
AMSTERDAM	9	13	Cloudy
ATHENS	14	20	Cloudy
BAHRAIN	24	32	Clear
BANGKOK	24	32	Clear
Buenos Aires	24	32	Clear
CAIRO	18	24	Clear
CHICAGO	01	13	Cloudy
COPENHAGEN	07	15	Clear
FRANKFURT	07	15	Rain
GENEVA	08	11	Rain
HONGKONG	24	28	Cloudy
ISTANBUL	17	25	Cloudy
LONDON	10	15	Cloudy
LOS ANGELES	17	23	Clear
MADRID	11	22	Clear
MEXICO	28	37	Clear
MONTREAL	03	09	Cloudy
MOSCOW	01	04	Clear
NEW DELHI	21	26	Clear
NEW YORK	07	15	Cloudy
PARIS	11	17	Cloudy
ROME	10	21	Rain
SYDNEY	13	23	Clear
TOKYO	12	24	Clear
VIENNA	08	13	Cloudy



Supporters of the late Philippine President Ferdinand Marcos take a nap using his huge poster as a blanket outside a military base in Manila. They are

holding a vigil demanding that the government allow the burial of the late president in his native town in the Philippines

Aquino rules out compromise

MANILA (AP) — President Corason Aquino Monday ruled out compromise with Ferdinand Marcos' family on the issue of his burial after the late president's widow reportedly offered to negotiate to allow his body to come home.

"The position against the return of the remains of former President Marcos is based on considerations of national interest and security," Aquino said in a statement. "So it cannot be the subject of compromise."

Marcos died Sept. 28 in Honolulu, where he lived in exile since he was ousted in a popular uprising. Aquino refused to allow the body of members of the Marcos family to return because of fears of civil unrest.

Last week, cabinet officials said the government had uncovered a plot to assassinate Aquino.

Aquino issued the statement after the Manila newspaper Malaya quoted Marcos' widow, Imelda, as saying she would be willing to negotiate with Aquino to allow her husband's burial in his home province of Ilocos Norte.

Imelda Marcos suggested that contacts could begin when Aquino visits the United States in early November.

"I have always been open to dialogue," she said. "But we will not tire to initiate such a move because of our obsession with what is right."

Several Manila newspapers reported from Honolulu that Senator Joseph Estrada would try to mediate between the Marcos family and the government.

Estrada, who left for Hawaii last Friday, was elected to the Senate in May 1987 as an opposition member but later joined the ruling coalition. The former actor served as mayor of the Manila suburb San Juan during the Marcos presidency.

Malaya also quoted Imelda Marcos as denying knowledge of any assassination plot. The government has not released details of the alleged plot, but it has attached closed-door briefings said it was revealed after 10 months of surveillance by intelligence agents.